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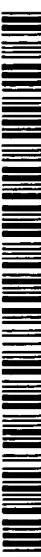
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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID VACCINES AGAINST RICKETTSIAL DISEASES AND METHODS OF USE

(57) Abstract: Described are nucleic acid vaccines containing genes to protect animals or humans against rickettsial diseases. Also described are polypeptides and methods of using these polypeptides to detect antibodies to pathogens.

DESCRIPTIONNUCLEIC ACID VACCINES AGAINST  
RICKETTSIAL DISEASES AND METHODS OF USE

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This invention was made with government support under USAID Grant No. LAG-1328-G-00-3030-00. The government has certain rights in this invention.

Technical Field

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This invention relates to nucleic acid vaccines for rickettsial diseases of animals, including humans.

Background of the Invention

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The rickettsias are a group of small bacteria commonly transmitted by arthropod vectors to man and animals, in which they may cause serious disease. The pathogens causing human rickettsial diseases include the agent of epidemic typhus, *Rickettsia prowazekii*, which has resulted in the deaths of millions of people during wartime and natural disasters. The causative agents of spotted fever, e.g., *Rickettsia rickettsii* and *Rickettsia conorii*, are also included within this group. Recently, new types of human rickettsial disease caused by members of the tribe *Ehrlichiae* have been described. *Ehrlichiae* infect leukocytes and endothelial cells of many different mammalian species, some of them causing serious human and veterinary diseases. Over 400 cases of human ehrlichiosis, including some fatalities, caused by *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* have now been reported. Clinical signs of human ehrlichiosis are similar to those of Rocky Mountain spotted fever, including fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, and rash.

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Heartwater is another infectious disease caused by a rickettsial pathogen, namely *Cowdria ruminantium*, and is transmitted by ticks of the genus *Amblyomma*. The disease occurs throughout most of Africa and has an estimated endemic area of about 5 million square miles. In endemic areas, heartwater is a latent infection in indigenous breeds of cattle that have been subjected to centuries of natural selection. The problems occur where the disease contacts susceptible or naive cattle and other ruminants. Heartwater has been confirmed to be on the island of Guadeloupe in the Caribbean and is spreading through the Caribbean Islands. The tick vectors responsible for spreading this disease are already present on the American mainland and threaten the livestock industry in North and South America.

In acute cases of heartwater, animals exhibit a sudden rise in temperature, signs of anorexia, cessation of rumination, and nervous symptoms including staggering, muscle twitching, and convulsions. Death usually occurs during these convulsions. Peracute cases of the disease occur where the animal collapses and dies in convulsions having shown no preliminary symptoms. Mortality is high in susceptible animals. Angora sheep infected with the disease have a 90% mortality rate while susceptible cattle strains have up to a 60% mortality rate.

If detected early, tetracycline or chloramphenicol treatment are effective against rickettsial infections, but symptoms are similar to numerous other infections and there are no satisfactory diagnostic tests (Helmick, C., K. Bernard, L. D'Angelo [1984] *J. Infect. Dis.* 150:480).

Animals which have recovered from heartwater are resistant to further homologous, and in some cases heterologous, strain challenge. It has similarly been found that persons recovering from a rickettsial infection may develop a solid and lasting immunity. Individuals recovered from natural infections are often immune to multiple isolates and even species. For example, guinea pigs immunized with a recombinant *R. conorii* protein were partially protected even against *R. rickettsii* (Vishwanath, S., G. McDonald, N. Watkins [1990] *Infect. Immun.* 58:646). It is known that there is structural variation in rickettsial antigens between different geographical isolates. Thus, a functional recombinant vaccine against multiple isolates would need to contain multiple epitopes, e.g., protective T and B cell epitopes, shared between isolates. It is believed that serum antibodies do not play a significant role in the mechanism of immunity against rickettsia (Uilenberg, G. [1983] *Advances in Vet. Sci. and Comp. Med.* 27:427-480; Du Plessis, Plessis, J.L. [1970] *Onderstepoort J. Vet. Res.* 37(3):147-150).

Vaccines based on inactivated or attenuated rickettsiae have been developed against certain rickettsial diseases, for example against *R. prowazekii* and *R. rickettsii*. However, these vaccines have major problems or disadvantages, including undesirable toxic reactions, difficulty in standardization, and expense (Woodward, T. [1981] "Rickettsial diseases: certain unsettled problems in their historical perspective." In *Rickettsia and Rickettsial Diseases*, W. Burgdorfer and R. Anacker, eds., Academic Press, New York, pp. 17-40).

A vaccine currently used in the control of heartwater is composed of live infected sheep blood. This vaccine also has several disadvantages. First, expertise is required for the intravenous inoculation techniques required to administer this vaccine. Second, vaccinated animals may experience shock and so require daily monitoring for a period after vaccination. There is a possibility of death due to shock throughout this monitoring period, and the drugs

needed to treat any shock induced by vaccination are costly. Third, blood-borne parasites may be present in the blood vaccine and be transmitted to the vaccines. Finally, the blood vaccine requires a cold chain to preserve the vaccine.

Clearly, a safer, more effective vaccine that is easily administered would be particularly advantageous. For these reasons, and with the advent of new methods in biotechnology, investigators have concentrated recently on the development of new types of vaccines, including recombinant vaccines. However, recombinant vaccine antigens must be carefully selected and presented to the immune system such that shared epitopes are recognized. These factors have contributed to the search for effective vaccines.

A protective vaccine against rickettsiae that elicits a complete immune response can be advantageous. A few antigens which potentially can be useful as vaccines have now been identified and sequenced for various pathogenic rickettsia. The genes encoding the antigens and that can be employed to recombinantly produce those antigen have also been identified and sequenced. Certain protective antigens identified for *R. rickettsii*, *R. conorii*, and *R. prowazekii* (e.g., rOmpA and rOmpB) are large (>100 kDa), dependent on retention of native conformation for protective efficacy, but are often degraded when produced in recombinant systems. This presents technical and quality-control problems if purified recombinant proteins are to be included in a vaccine. The mode of presentation of a recombinant antigen to the immune system can also be an important factor in the immune response.

Nucleic acid vaccination has been shown to induce protective immune responses in non-viral systems and in diverse animal species (Special Conference Issue, WHO meeting on nucleic acid vaccines [1994] *Vaccine* 12:1491). Nucleic acid vaccination has induced cytotoxic lymphocyte (CTL), T-helper 1, and antibody responses, and has been shown to be protective against disease (Ulmer, J., J. Donnelly, S. Parker *et al.* [1993] *Science* 259:1745). For example, direct intramuscular injection of mice with DNA encoding the influenza nucleoprotein caused the production of high titer antibodies, nucleoprotein-specific CTLs, and protection against viral challenge. Immunization of mice with plasmid DNA encoding the *Plasmodium yoelii* circumsporozoite protein induced high antibody titers against malaria sporozoites and CTLs, and protection against challenge infection (Sedegah, M., R. Hedstrom, P. Hobart, S. Hoffman [1994] *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 91:9866). Cattle immunized with plasmids encoding bovine herpesvirus 1 (BHV-1) glycoprotein IV developed neutralizing antibody and were partially protected (Cox, G., T. Zamb, L. Babiuk [1993] *J. Virol.* 67:5664). However, it has been a question in the field of immunization whether the recently discovered technology of nucleic acid vaccines can provide improved protection against an antigenic drift variant. Moreover, it has

not heretofore been recognized or suggested that nucleic acid vaccines may be successful to protect against rickettsial disease or that a major surface protein conserved in rickettsia was protective against disease.

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Brief Summary of the Invention

Disclosed and claimed here are novel vaccines for conferring immunity to rickettsia infection, including *Cowdria ruminantium* causing heartwater. Also disclosed are novel nucleic acid compositions and methods of using those compositions, including to confer immunity in a susceptible host. Also disclosed are novel materials and methods for diagnosing infections by 10 *Ehrlichia* in humans or animals.

One aspect of the subject invention concerns a nucleic acid, e.g., DNA or mRNA, vaccine containing the major antigenic protein 1 gene (MAP1) or the major antigenic protein 2 gene (MAP2) of rickettsial pathogens. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid vaccines can be driven by the human cytomegalovirus(HCMV)enhancer-promoter. In studies immunizing mice by intramuscular injection of a DNA vaccine composition according to the subject invention, immunized mice seroconverted and reacted with MAP1 in antigen blots. Splenocytes from immunized mice, but not from control mice immunized with vector only, proliferated in response to recombinant MAP1 and rickettsial antigens in *in vitro* lymphocyte proliferation tests. In experiments testing different DNA vaccine dose regimens, increased survival rates as 15 compared to controls were observed on challenge with rickettsia. Accordingly, the subject invention concerns the discovery that DNA vaccines can induce protective immunity against rickettsial disease or death resulting therefrom.

The subject invention further concerns the genes designated *Cowdria ruminantium map 2*, *Cowdria ruminantium 1hworf3*, *Cowdria ruminantium 4hworf1*, *Cowdria ruminantium 18hworf1*, and *Cowdria ruminantium 3gdorf3* and the use of these genes in diagnostic and therapeutic applications. The subject invention further concerns the proteins encoded by the exemplified genes, antibodies to these proteins, and the use of such antibodies and proteins in 20 diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

In one embodiment of the subject invention, the polynucleotide vaccines are administered in conjunction with an antigen. In a preferred embodiment, the antigen is the polypeptide which is encoded by the polynucleotide administered as the polynucleotide vaccine. As a particularly preferred embodiment, the antigen is administered as a booster subsequent to 30 the initial administration of the polynucleotide vaccine.

Brief Description of the Drawings

**Figures 1A-1C** show a comparison of the amino acid sequences from alignment of the three rickettsial proteins, namely, *Cowdria ruminantium* (*C.r.*), *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* (*E.c.*), and *Anaplasma marginale* (*A.m.*).

5      **Figures 2A-2C** shows the DNA sequence of the 28 kDa gene locus cloned from *E. chaffeensis* (Fig. 2A-2B) and *E. canis* (Fig. 2C). One letter amino acid codes for the deduced protein sequences are presented below the nucleotide sequence. The proposed sigma-70-like promoter sequences (38) are presented in bold and underlined text as -10 and -35 (consensus-35 and -10 sequences are TTGACA and TATAAT, respectively). Similarly, consensus ribosomal binding sites and transcription terminator sequences (bold letter sequence) are identified. G-rich regions identified in the *E. chaffeensis* sequence are underlined. The conserved sequences from within the coding regions selected for RT-PCR assay are identified with italics and underlined text.

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15      **Figure 3A** shows the complete sequence of the MAP2 homolog of *Ehrlichia canis*. The arrow (→) represents the predicted start of the mature protein. The asterisk (\*) represents the stop codon. Underlined nucleotides 5' to the open reading frame with -35 and -10 below represent predicted promoter sequences. Double underlined nucleotides represent the predicted ribosomal binding site. Underlined nucleotides 3' to the open reading frame represent possible transcription termination sequences.

20      **Figure 3B** shows the complete sequence of the MAP2 homolog of *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*. The arrow (→) represents the predicted start of the mature protein. The asterisk (\*) represents the stop codon. Underlined nucleotides 5' to the open reading frame with -35 and -10 below represent predicted promoter sequences. Double underlined nucleotides represent the predicted ribosomal binding site. Underlined nucleotides 3' to the open reading frame represent possible transcription termination sequences.

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Brief Description of the Sequences

**SEQ ID NO. 1** is the coding sequence of the MAP1 gene from *Cowdria ruminantium* (Highway isolate).

30      **SEQ ID NO. 2** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 1.

**SEQ ID NO. 3** is the coding sequence of the MAP1 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*.

**SEQ ID NO. 4** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 3.

**SEQ ID NO. 5** is the *Anaplasma marginale* MSP4 gene coding sequence.

**SEQ ID NO. 6** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 5.

**SEQ ID NO. 7** is a partial coding sequence of the VSA1 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 8** is the coding sequence of the VSA2 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 9** is the coding sequence of the VSA3 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 10** is the coding sequence of the VSA4 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 11** is a partial coding sequence of the VSA5 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 12** is the coding sequence of the VSA1 gene from *Ehrlichia canis*, also shown in Figure 2C.

**SEQ ID NO. 13** is a partial coding sequence of the VSA2 gene from *Ehrlichia canis*, also shown in Figure 2C.

**SEQ ID NO. 14** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 7, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 15** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 8, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 16** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 9, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 17** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 10, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 18** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 11, also shown in Figures 2A-2B.

**SEQ ID NO. 19** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 12, also shown in Figure 2C.

**SEQ ID NO. 20** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 13, also shown in Figure 2C.

**SEQ ID NO. 21** is the coding sequence of the MAP2 gene from *Ehrlichia canis*, also shown in Figure 3A.

**SEQ ID NO. 22** is the coding sequence of the MAP2 gene from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, also shown in Figure 3B.

**SEQ ID NO. 23** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 21, also shown in Figure 3A.

**SEQ ID NO. 24** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 22, also shown in Figure 3B.

**SEQ ID NO. 25** is the coding sequence of the *map2* gene from *Cowdria ruminantium*.

**SEQ ID NO. 26** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 25.

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**SEQ ID NO. 27** is the coding sequence of the *ihworf3* gene from *Cowdria ruminantium*.

**SEQ ID NO. 28** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 27.

**SEQ ID NO. 29** is the coding sequence of the *4hworf1* gene from *Cowdria ruminantium*.

**SEQ ID NO. 30** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 29.

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**SEQ ID NO. 31** is the coding sequence of the *18hworf1* gene from *Cowdria ruminantium*.

**SEQ ID NO. 32** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 31.

**SEQ ID NO. 33** is the coding sequence of the *3gdorf3* gene from *Cowdria ruminantium*.

**SEQ ID NO. 34** is the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO. 33.

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#### Detailed Disclosure of the Invention

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In one embodiment, the subject invention concerns a novel strategy, termed nucleic acid vaccination, for eliciting an immune response protective against rickettsial disease. The subject invention also concerns novel compositions that can be employed according to this novel strategy for eliciting a protective immune response.

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According to the subject invention, recombinant DNA or mRNA encoding an antigen of interest is inoculated directly into the human or animal host where an immune response is induced. Prokaryotic signal sequences may be deleted from the nucleic acid encoding an antigen of interest. Advantageously, problems of protein purification, as can be encountered with antigen delivery using live vectors, can be virtually eliminated by employing the compositions or methods according to the subject invention. Unlike live vector delivery, the subject invention can provide a further advantage in that the DNA or RNA does not replicate in the host, but remains episomal. See, for example, Wolff, J.A., J.J. Ludike, G. Acsadi, P. Williams, A. Jani (1992) *Hum. Mol. Genet.* 1:363. A complete immune response can be obtained as recombinant antigen is synthesized intracellularly and presented to the host immune system in the context of autologous class I and class II MHC molecules.

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In one embodiment, the subject invention concerns nucleic acids and compositions comprising those nucleic acids that can be effective in protecting an animal from disease or death caused by rickettsia. For example, a nucleic acid vaccine of the subject invention has been

shown to be protective against *Cowdria ruminantium*, the causative agent of heartwater in domestic ruminants. Accordingly, nucleotide sequences of rickettsial genes, as described herein, can be used as nucleic acid vaccines against human and animal rickettsial diseases.

In one embodiment of the subject invention, the polynucleotide vaccines are administered in conjunction with an antigen. In a preferred embodiment, the antigen is the polypeptide which is encoded by the polynucleotide administered as the polynucleotide vaccine. As a particularly preferred embodiment, the antigen is administered as a booster subsequent to the initial administration of the polynucleotide vaccine. In another embodiment of the invention, the polynucleotide vaccine is administered in the form of a "cocktail" which contains at least two of the nucleic acid vaccines of the subject invention. The "cocktail" may be administered in conjunction with an antigen or an antigen booster as described above.

The MAP1 gene, which can be used to obtain this protection, is also present in other rickettsiae including *Anaplasma marginale*, *Ehrlichia canis*, and in a causative agent of human ehrlichiosis, *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* (van Vliet, A., F. Jongejan, M. van Kleef, B. van der Zeijst [1994] *Infect. Immun.* 62:1451). The MAP1 gene or a MAP1-like gene can also be found in certain *Rickettsia* spp. MAP1-like genes from *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* and *Ehrlichia canis* have now been cloned and sequenced. These MAP-1 homologs are also referred to herein as Variable Surface Antigen (VSA) genes.

The present invention also concerns polynucleotides encoding MAP2 or MAP2 homologs from *Ehrlichia canis* and *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*. MAP2 polynucleotide sequences of the invention can be used as vaccine compositions and in diagnostic assays. The polynucleotides can also be used to produce the MAP2 polypeptides encoded thereby.

The subject invention further concerns the genes designated *Cowdria ruminantium map 2*, *Cowdria ruminantium 1hworf3*, *Cowdria ruminantium 4hworf1*, *Cowdria ruminantium 18hworf1*, and *Cowdria ruminantium 3gdorf3* and the use of these genes in diagnostic and therapeutic applications. The subject invention further concerns the proteins encoded by the exemplified genes, antibodies to these proteins, and the use of such antibodies and proteins in diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

Compositions comprising the subject polynucleotides can include appropriate nucleic acid vaccine vectors (plasmids), which are commercially available (e.g., Vical, San Diego, CA). In addition, the compositions can include a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g., saline. The pharmaceutically acceptable carriers are well known in the art and also are commercially available. For example, such acceptable carriers are described in E.W. Martin's *Remington's Pharmaceutical Science*, Mack Publishing Company, Easton, PA.

The subject invention also concerns polypeptides encoded by the subject polynucleotides. Specifically exemplified are the polypeptides encoded by the MAP-1 and VSA genes of *C. ruminantium*, *E. chaffeensis*, *E. canis* and the MP4 gene of *Anaplasma marginale*. Polypeptides uncoded by *E. chaffeensis* and *E. canis* MAP2 genes are also exemplified herein.

5 Also encompassed within the scope of the present invention are fragments and variants of the exemplified polynucleotides and polypeptides. Fragments would include, for example, portions of the exemplified sequences wherein prokaryotic signal sequences have been removed. Examples of the removal of such sequences are given in Example 3. Variants include 10 polynucleotides and/or polypeptides having base or amino acid additions, deletions and substitutions in the sequence of the subject molecule so long as those variants have substantially the same activity or serologic reactivity as the native molecules. Also included are allelic variants of the subject polynucleotides. The polypeptides of the present invention can be used to raise antibodies that are reactive with the polypeptides disclosed herein. The polypeptides and polynucleotides can also be used as molecular weight markers.

15 Another aspect of the subject invention concerns antibodies reactive with MAP-1 and MAP2 polypeptides disclosed herein. Antibodies can be monoclonal or polyclonal and can be produced using standard techniques known in the art. Antibodies of the invention can be used in diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

In a specific embodiment, the subject invention concerns a DNA vaccine (e.g., 20 VCL1010/MAP1) containing the major antigenic protein 1 gene (MAP1) driven by the human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) enhancer-promoter. In a specific example, this vaccine was injected intramuscularly into 8-10 week-old female DBA/2 mice after treating them with 50 µl/muscle of 0.5% bupivacaine 3 days previously. Up to 75% of the VCL1010/MAP1-immunized mice seroconverted and reacted with MAP1 in antigen blots. Splenocytes from immunized mice, but 25 not from control mice immunized with VCL1010 DNA (plasmid vector, Vical, San Diego) proliferated in response to recombinant MAP1 and *C. ruminantium* antigens in *in vitro* lymphocyte proliferation tests. These proliferating cells from mice immunized with VCL1010/MAP1 DNA secreted IFN-gamma and IL-2 at concentrations ranging from 610 pg/ml and 152 pg/ml to 1290 pg/ml and 310 pg/ml, respectively. In experiments testing different 30 VCL1010/MAP1 DNA vaccine dose regimens (25-100 µg/dose, 2 or 4 immunizations), survival rates of 23% to 88% (35/92 survivors/total in all VCL1010/MAP1 immunized groups) were observed on challenge with 30LD50 of *C. ruminantium*. Survival rates of 0% to 3% (1/144 survivors/total in all control groups) were recorded for control mice immunized similarly with VCL1010 DNA or saline. Accordingly, in a specific embodiment, the subject invention

concerns the discovery that the gene encoding the MAPI protein induces protective immunity as a DNA vaccine against rickettsial disease.

The nucleic acid sequences described herein have other uses as well. For example, the nucleic acids of the subject invention can be useful as probes to identify complementary sequences within other nucleic acid molecules or genomes. Such use of probes can be applied to identify or distinguish infectious strains of organisms in diagnostic procedures or in rickettsial research where identification of particular organisms or strains is needed. As is well known in the art, probes can be made by labeling the nucleic acid sequences of interest according to accepted nucleic acid labeling procedures and techniques. A person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that variations or fragments of the disclosed sequences which can specifically and selectively hybridize to the DNA of rickettsia can also function as a probe. It is within the ordinary skill of persons in the art, and does not require undue experimentation in view of the description provided herein, to determine whether a segment of the claimed DNA sequences is a fragment or variant which has characteristics of the full sequence. e.g., whether it specifically and selectively hybridizes or can confer protection against rickettsial infection in accordance with the subject invention. In addition, with the benefit of the subject disclosure describing the specific sequences, it is within the ordinary skill of those persons in the art to label hybridizing sequences to produce a probe.

Various degrees of stringency of hybridization can be employed. The more severe the conditions, the greater the complementarity that is required for duplex formation. Severity of conditions can be controlled by temperature, probe concentration, probe length, ionic strength, time, and the like. Preferably, hybridization is conducted under moderate to high stringency conditions by techniques well known in the art, as described, for example, in Keller, G.H.. M.M. Manak (1987) *DNA Probes*. Stockton Press. New York. NY.. pp. 169-170.

Examples of various stringency conditions are provided herein. Hybridization of immobilized DNA on Southern blots with 32P-labeled gene-specific probes can be performed by standard methods ( Maniatis *et al.* (1982) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York.). In general, hybridization and subsequent washes can be carried out under moderate to high stringency conditions that allow for detection of target sequences with homology to the exemplified polynucleotide sequence. For double-stranded DNA gene probes, hybridization can be carried out overnight at 20-25° C below the melting temperature (Tm) of the DNA hybrid in 6X SSPE, 5X Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml denatured DNA. The melting temperature is described by the following formula (Beltz *et al.*

*et al.* [1983] *Methods of Enzymology*, R. Wu, L. Grossman and K. Moldave [eds.] Academic Press, New York 100:266-285).

$T_m = 81.5^\circ\text{C} + 16.6 \log[\text{Na}^+] + 0.41(\%G+C) - 0.61(\%\text{formamide}) - 600/\text{length of duplex in base pairs.}$

5 Washes are typically carried out as follows:

- (1) twice at room temperature for 15 minutes in 1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS (low stringency wash);
- (2) once at  $T_m - 20^\circ\text{C}$  for 15 minutes in 0.2X SSPE, 0.1% SDS (moderate stringency wash).

10 For oligonucleotide probes, hybridization can be carried out overnight at 10-20°C below the melting temperature ( $T_m$ ) of the hybrid in 6X SSPE, 5X Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml denatured DNA.  $T_m$  for oligonucleotide probes can be determined by the following formula:

15  $T_m (\text{ }^\circ\text{C}) = 2(\text{number T/A base pairs}) + 4(\text{number G/C base pairs})$  (Suggs *et al.* [1981] *ICN-UCLA Symp. Dev. Biol. Using Purified Genes*, D.D. Brown [ed.], Academic Press, New York, 23:683-693).

Washes can be carried out as follows:

- (1) twice at room temperature for 15 minutes 1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS (low stringency wash);
- (2) once at the hybridization temperature for 15 minutes in 1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS (moderate stringency wash).

20 In general, salt and/or temperature can be altered to change stringency. With a labeled DNA fragment >70 or so bases in length, the following conditions can be used:

Low:	1 or 2X SSPE, room temperature
25 Low:	1 or 2X SSPE, 42°C
Moderate:	0.2X or 1X SSPE, 65°C
High:	0.1X SSPE, 65°C.

25 Duplex formation and stability depend on substantial complementarity between the two strands of a hybrid and, as noted above, a certain degree of mismatch can be tolerated. Therefore, the probe sequences of the subject invention include mutations (both single and multiple), deletions, insertions of the described sequences, and combinations thereof, wherein said mutations, insertions and deletions permit formation of stable hybrids with the target polynucleotide of interest. Mutations, insertions and deletions can be produced in a given

polynucleotide sequence in many ways, and these methods are known to an ordinarily skilled artisan. Other methods may become known in the future.

It is also well known in the art that restriction enzymes can be used to obtain functional fragments of the subject DNA sequences. For example, *Bal31* exonuclease can be conveniently used for time-controlled limited digestion of DNA (commonly referred to as "erase-a-base" procedures). See, for example, Maniatis *et al.* (1982) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York; Wei *et al.* (1983) *J. Biol. Chem.* 258:13006-13512.

In addition, the nucleic acid sequences of the subject invention can be used as molecular weight markers in nucleic acid analysis procedures.

10

Following are examples which illustrate procedures for practicing the invention. These examples should not be construed as limiting. All percentages are by weight and all solvent mixture proportions are by volume unless otherwise noted.

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#### Example 1

A nucleic acid vaccine construct was tested in animals for its ability to protect against death caused by infection with the rickettsia *Cowdria ruminantium*. The vaccine construct tested was the MAP1 gene of *C. ruminantium* inserted into plasmid VCL1010 (Vical, San Diego) under control of the human cytomegalovirus promoter-enhancer and intron A. In this study, seven groups containing 10 mice each were injected twice at 2-week intervals with either 100, 75, 50, or 25 µg VCL1010/MAP1 DNA (V/M in Table 1 below), or 100, 50 µg VCL1010 DNA (V in Table 1) or saline (Sal.), respectively. Two weeks after the last injections, 8 mice/group were challenged with 30LD50 of *C. ruminantium* and clinical symptoms and survival monitored. The remaining 2 mice/group were not challenged and were used for lymphocyte proliferation tests and cytokine measurements. The results of the study are summarized in Table 1, below:

**Table 1**

	100 µg V/M	75 µg V/M	50 µg V/M	25 µg V/M	100 µg V	50 µg V	Sal.
Survived	5	7	5	3	0	0	0
Died	3	1	3	5	8	8	8

The VCL1010/MAP1 nucleic acid vaccine increased survival on challenge in all groups, with a total of 20/30 mice surviving compared to 0/24 in the control groups.

This study was repeated with another 6 groups, each containing 33 mice (a total of 198 mice). Three groups received 75 µg VCL1010/MAP1 DNA or VCL1010 DNA or saline (4 injections in all cases). Two weeks after the last injection, 30 mice/group were challenged with 30LD50 of *C. ruminantium* and 3 mice/group were sacrificed for lymphocyte proliferation tests and cytokine measurements. The results of this study are summarized in Table 2, below:

**Table 2**

	V/M 2 inj.	V 2 inj.	Sal. 2 inj.	V/M 4 inj.	V 4 inj.	Sal. 4 inj.
Survived	7	0	0	8	0	1
Died*	23	30	30	22	30	29

\*In mice that died in both V/M groups, there was an increase in mean survival time of approximately 4 days compared to the controls ( $p<0.05$ ).

Again, as summarized in Table 2, the VCL1010/MAP1 DNA vaccine increased the numbers of mice surviving in both immunized groups, although there was no apparent benefit of 2 additional injections. In these two experiments, there were a cumulative total of 35/92 (38%) surviving mice in groups receiving the VCL1010/MAP1 DNA vaccine compared to 1/144 (0.7%) surviving mice in the control groups. In both immunization and challenge trials described above, splenocytes from VCL1010/MAP1 immunized mice, but not from control mice, specifically proliferated to recombinant MAP1 protein and to *C. ruminantium* in lymphocyte proliferation tests. These proliferating splenocytes secreted IL-2 and gamma-interferon at concentrations up to 310 and 1290 pg/ml respectively. These data show that protection against rickettsial infections can be achieved with a DNA vaccine. In addition, these experiments show MAP1-related proteins as vaccine targets.

Example 2 – Cloning and sequence analysis of MAP1 homologue genes of *E. chaffeensis* and *E. canis*

Genes homologous to the major surface protein of *C. ruminantium* MAP1 were cloned from *E. chaffeensis* and *E. canis* by using PCR cloning strategies. The cloned segments represent a 4.6 kb genomic locus of *E. chaffeensis* and a 1.6 kb locus of *E. canis*. DNA sequence generated from these clones was assembled and is presented along with the deduced amino acid

sequence in Figures 2A-2B (SEQ ID NOs. 7-11 and 14-18) and Figure 2C (SEQ ID NOs. 12-13 and 19-20). Significant features of the DNA include five very similar but nonidentical open reading frames (ORFs) for *E. chaffeensis* and two very similar, nonidentical ORFs for the *E. canis* cloned locus. The ORFs for both *Ehrlichia* spp. are separated by noncoding sequences ranging from 264 to 310 base pairs. The noncoding sequences have a higher A+T content (71.6% for *E. chaffeensis* and 76.1% for *E. canis*) than do the coding sequences (63.5% for *E. chaffeensis* and 68.0% for *E. canis*). A G-rich region -200 bases upstream from the initiation codon, sigma-70-like promoter sequences, putative ribosome binding sites (RBS), termination codons, and palindromic sequences near the termination codons are found in each of the *E. chaffeensis* noncoding sequences. The *E. canis* noncoding sequence has the same feature except for the G-rich region (Figure 2C; SEQ ID NOs. 12-13 and 19-20).

Sequence comparisons of the ORFs at the nucleotide and translated amino acid levels revealed a high degree of similarity between them. The similarity spanned the entire coding sequences, except in three regions where notable sequence variations were observed including some deletions/insertions(Variable Regions I, II and III). Despite the similarities, no two ORFs are identical. The cloned ORF 2, 3 and 4 of *E. chaffeensis* have complete coding sequences. The ORF1 is a partial gene having only 143 amino acids at the C-terminus whereas the ORF5 is nearly complete but lacks 5-7 amino acids and a termination codon. The cloned ORF2 of *E. canis* also is a partial gene lacking a part of the C-terminal sequence. The overall similarity between different ORFs at the amino acid level is 56.0% to 85.4% for *E. chaffeensis*, whereas for *E. canis* it is 53.3%. The similarity of *E. chaffeensis* ORFs to the MAP1 coding sequences reported for *C. ruminantium* isolates ranged from 55.5% to 66.7%, while for *E. canis* to *C. ruminantium* it is 48.5% to 54.2%. Due to their high degree of similarity to MAP1 surface antigen genes of *C. ruminantium* and since they are nonidentical to each other, the *E. chaffeensis* and *E. canis* ORFs are referred to herein as putative Variable Surface Antigen (VSA) genes. The apparent molecular masses of the predicted mature proteins of *E. chaffeensis* were 28.75 kDa for VSA2, 27.78 for VSA3, and 27.95 for VSA4, while *E. canis* VSA1 was slightly higher at 29.03 kDa. The first 25 amino acids in each VSA coding sequence were eliminated when calculating the protein size since they markedly resembled the signal sequence of *C. ruminantium* MAP1 and presumably would be absent from the mature protein.

The amino acid sequence derived from the cloned *E. chaffeensis* MAP1-like gene, and alignment with the corresponding genes of *C. ruminantium* and *A. marginale* is shown in Figure 1.

Example 3

A further aspect of the subject invention are five additional genes which give protection when formatted as DNA vaccines. These genes are *Cowdria ruminantium map 2*, *Cowdria ruminantium 1hworf3*, *Cowdria ruminantium 4hworf1*, *Cowdria ruminantium 18hworf1*, and *Cowdria ruminantium 3gdorf3*. The DNA and translated amino acid sequences of these five genes are shown in SEQ ID NOS. 25-34.

There is published information showing that gene homologs of all five genes are present in other bacteria. For example, a homolog of *map2* is present in *Anaplasma marginale*, a homolog of *1hworf3* is present in *Brucella abortus*, homologs of *4hworf1* are present in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Coxiella burnetii*, and homologs of *18hworf1* are present in *Coxiella burnetii* and *Rickettsia prowazekii*. This can be revealed by a search of DNA and protein databases with standard search algorithms such as "Blast". Based on the protective ability of these genes against *Cowdria ruminantium* and their presence in other bacterial pathogens, the subject invention further concerns the use of these genes, their gene products, and the genes and gene products of the homologs as vaccines against bacteria. This includes their use as DNA or nucleic acid vaccines or when formulated in vaccines employing other methods of delivery, e.g., recombinant proteins or synthetic peptides in adjuvants, recombinant live vector delivery systems such as vaccinia (or other live viruses) or *Salmonella* (or other live bacteria). These methods of delivery are standard to those familiar with the field. This also includes vaccines against heartwater disease, vaccines against rickettsial diseases in general and vaccines against other bacteria containing homologs of these genes.

Table 3 shows the protective ability of the 5 genes against death from *Cowdria ruminantium* challenge in mice. Genes were inserted into VR1012 according to the manufacturers instructions (Vical, San Diego) and challenge studies were conducted as described in Example 1. N-terminal sequences which putatively encoded prokaryotic signal peptides were deleted because of the potential for their affects on expression and immune responses in eukaryotic expression systems or challenged animals. The inserts were as follows: *map2*, SEQ ID NO. 25, beginning at base 46; *18hworf1*, SEQ ID NO. 31, beginning at base 67; *3gdorf3*, SEQ ID NO. 33, beginning at base 79; *1hworf3*, SEQ ID NO. 27, beginning at base 76; and *4hworf1*, SEQ ID NO. 29, beginning at base 58.

Table 3

DNA Construct	MWT	Survival Rate				P value
		Size	Vaccinated	Control		
TMMAP 2	21 kd	9/28*	32%	0/29	0%	0.004
MB18HWORF1	28 kd	10/30*	33%	1/27	4%	0.021
5 AM3GDORF3	16 kd	7/26	27%	1/27	4%	0.060
TM1HWORF3	36 kd	8/29	28%	2/30	7%	0.093
TM4HWORF1	19 kd	10/30*	33%	2/30	7%	0.054

Control - VR1012 DNA vector plasmid only

10 \*Statistically significant difference (Fisher's Exact test)

It should be understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be suggested to persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application and the scope of the appended claims.

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Claims

1           1. A composition comprising a polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide having the  
2         characteristic of eliciting an immune response protective against disease or death caused by a  
3         rickettsial pathogen.

1           2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said rickettsial pathogen is selected  
2         from the group consisting of *Rickettsia* spp., *Ehrlichia* spp., *Anaplasma* spp., and *Cowdria* spp.

1           3. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said polypeptide has an amino acid  
2         sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 2, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 6,  
3         SEQ ID NO. 14, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NOS. 16-20, SEQ ID NO. 23, SEQ ID NO. 24, SEQ  
4         ID NO. 26, SEQ ID NO. 28, SEQ ID NO. 30, SEQ ID NO. 32, SEQ ID NO. 34, homologs  
5         thereof, and immunogenic fragments thereof.

1           4. The composition, according to claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide has a nucleic  
2         acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 1, SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO.  
3         5, SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 8, SEQ ID NOS. 9-13, SEQ ID NO. 21, SEQ ID NO. 22, , SEQ  
4         ID NO. 25, SEQ ID NO. 27, SEQ ID NO. 29, SEQ ID NO. 31, SEQ ID NO. 33, homologs  
5         thereof, and fragments thereof which encode immunogenic polypeptides.

1           5. The composition, according to claim 4, wherein said polynucleotide has a nucleic  
2         acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 3, or a fragment thereof.

1           6. The composition, according to claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide further  
2         comprises a nucleic acid vaccine vector.

1           7. The composition, according to claim 1, further comprising a pharmaceutically  
2         acceptable carrier.

1           8. A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected  
2         from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NOS. 14-20, SEQ ID NOS. 23-24, SEQ  
3         ID NO. 26, SEQ ID NO. 28, SEQ ID NO. 30, SEQ ID NO. 32, SEQ ID NO. 34, and fragments  
4         thereof.

1           9. The polynucleotide, according to claim 8, said polynucleotide having a nucleic acid  
2       sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NOS. 7-13, SEQ ID  
3       NOS. 21-22, SEQ ID NOS. 25, SEQ ID NO. 27, SEQ ID NO. 29, SEQ ID NO. 31, and SEQ ID  
4       NO. 33.

1           10. A method for protecting a susceptible host against disease or death caused by a  
2       rickettsial pathogen, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a  
3       polynucleotide encoding polypeptide having the characteristic of eliciting an immune response  
4       protective against said rickettsial pathogen.

1           11. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said rickettsial pathogen is selected  
2       from the group consisting of *Rickettsia* spp., *Ehrlichia* spp., *Anaplasma* spp., and *Cowdria* spp.

1           12. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said polypeptide has an amino acid  
2       sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 2, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 6,  
3       SEQ ID NO. 14, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NOS. 16-20, SEQ ID NO. 23, SEQ ID NO. 24, SEQ  
4       ID NO. 26, SEQ ID NO. 28, SEQ ID NO. 30, SEQ ID NO. 32, SEQ ID NO. 34, or homologs  
5       thereof and immunogenic fragments thereof.

1           13. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said polynucleotide has a nucleic acid  
2       sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 1, SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 5,  
3       SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 8, SEQ ID NOS. 9-13, SEQ ID NO. 21, SEQ ID NO. 22, SEQ ID  
4       NO. 25, SEQ ID NO. 27, SEQ ID NO. 29, SEQ ID NO. 31, and SEQ ID NO. 33.

1           14. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said polynucleotide has the nucleic acid  
2       sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1.

1           15. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said polynucleotide has the nucleic acid  
2       sequence of SEQ ID NO. 3.

1           16. The method, according to claim 13, wherein said polynucleotide has the nucleic acid  
2       sequence of SEQ ID NO. 5.

1           17. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said nucleic acid further comprises an  
2 appropriate nucleic acid vector.

1           18. The method, according to claim 10, wherein said composition further comprises a  
2 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

1           19. The method, according to claim 10, which further comprises administration to said  
2 host of said polypeptide encoded by said polypeptide.

1           20. A method for detecting, in a human or animal, antibodies associated with infection  
2 by *Ehrlichia*, wherein said method comprises contacting a biological fluid from said human or  
3 animal with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 4. SEQ ID NOS.  
4 14-20, SEQ ID NOS. 23-24, SEQ ID NO. 26. SEQ ID NO. 28, SEQ ID NO. 30. SEQ ID NO.  
5 32, SEQ ID NO. 34, and homologs and fragments thereof.

1           21. A method of detecting the presence of rickettsial nucleic acids comprising  
2 contacting a sample suspected of containing rickettsial nucleic acids with a composition  
3 comprising a labeled polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide having the characteristic of  
4 eliciting an immune response protective against disease or death caused by a rickettsial  
5 pathogen, allowing for the formation of a hybridization complex and detecting said label.

1           22. The composition, according to claim 21, wherein said rickettsial pathogen is  
2 selected from the group consisting of *Rickettsia* spp., *Ehrlichia* spp., *Anaplasma* spp., and  
3 *Cowdria* spp.

1           23. The composition, according to claim 21, wherein said polypeptide has an amino acid  
2 sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 2, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 6.  
3 SEQ ID NO. 14, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NOS. 16-20. SEQ ID NO. 23. SEQ ID NO. 24. SEQ  
4 ID NO. 26. SEQ ID NO. 28. SEQ ID NO. 30. SEQ ID NO. 32, SEQ ID NO. 34, and homologs  
5 and immunogenic fragments thereof.

1           24. The composition, according to claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide has a nucleic  
2 acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 1, SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO.  
3 5. SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 8. SEQ ID NOS. 9-13. SEQ ID NO. 21. SEQ ID NO. 22. SEQ

20

4 ID NO. 25, SEQ ID NO. 27, SEQ ID NO. 29, SEQ ID NO. 31, SEQ ID NO. 33, homologs  
5 thereof, and fragments thereof which encode immunogenic polypeptides.

**FIG. 1A**

C.r.	ATGAAATTGCAAGAAAATTTTA-----	TCACAAGTACACTAATACTCAT-TAGTG
E.c.	ATGAAATTACAAAAAAAGTT'CA-----	TAACAGCG-ATTGATATCATTAAATA
A.m.	* * * * * * * * * *	* * * * *
C.r.	TCATTT--TACCTGGTGTGCCTTTCTGATGTAATACAGGAAGACAGCAACCCAGCAG	*
E.c.	TCCCTCTCTTACCTGGAGTATCATTTTCCGACCCCAAGGCCAGGTAGTGGTCA---TTAACG	
A.m.	CCCTACTTGTGTTAGTGGGGCGTAGTGGCATCTCCCATGAGTCACGGAAAGTGGCTTCTGAAG	
C.r.	* * * * * * * * *	* * *
C.r.	GCAGTGTGTTACATTAGGGCAAAATACATGCCAACTGCATCACATTGGTAAATAGTCAA	
E.c.	GTAATTCTACATCAGTGGAAAATACGATGCCAAGGGCTTCCGATTGGAGTTATTCTCTG	
A.m.	GGGGAGTAATGGGAGGTAGCTTTACGTGGGTGGGGCT-ACAGCCCAGCATTCTCTCT	
C.r.	* * * * *	* * *
C.r.	TCAAGAAGGATTCAAAAAACTCAAACGGTATTGGCTAAAAAAGATGGGATGGCG	
E.c.	CTAAGGAAGAAATAACAAACAGTTGGAGTGTGGACTGAAGCAAAATGGGAGGGAA	
A.m.	GTТАACCTCGTTCGACATGGGTGAGTCAGCAAGCAAAAGAGACCTCA--TACGTTAGAGGCTATG	
C.r.	* * * *	* * *
C.r.	TTAAAACACCATCAGATTCTAGCAATACTAATTCTACAATTGGTACTCAAATGAA	
E.c.	GCGCAATATC--CAACTCCCTAAACGA-----TGTATTCACTGTCTCAAATTATT	
A.m.	ACAAGAGGCAATTGCAACGATTGAGTGTGAGTCAGCAACTTTCCAAATCTGGCTACAA	
C.r.	* * * *	* * *
C.r.	CTTTCAGATATGAAACAATCCGTTTACGGTTCTGGGCAATTGGGTACTCAAATGAA	
E.c.	CATTAAATATGAAAACAACCCGTTTACGGGCTATTGGTTACTCAAATGGG	
A.m.	CTTTTGCCTTCTCTAAACCTTAATCACGTTCTGGGATATTCTCTGGGATTTCTCTGG	
C.r.	* * * *	* * *

FIG. 1B

**FIG. 1C**

C.r.	GTGGACATTTCCATAGAGTTATAGGATAATTAAAGATAATTGCTACCTTAAAATAT	
E.c.	GTGGGCACCTTCATAAGGTAAATAGGGAACGAACTTGTAGGATATTCTACTATAACCTA	
A.m.	GTGGGTTCTACCAACGGCTTATTGTGAGTCTTACAAGGACATTCCGGCACACAAACAGTG	*** * * * *
	* * * * *	*
C.r.	TTACTTCAAACAGGAATACTAATCCTGGCATCAGCAACACTTGATGTTGTC	
E.c.	CTGGATCAACACTTGCAAGGAAAGGAAACTACCCCTGCAATAGTAATACGGATGTATGCC	
A.m.	TAAAGTTCTGGAGAACAAAA-----GCCTCAGTCAAAGGGCATATTGCTG	*** * * * *
	* * * *	
C.r.	ACTTTGGTATAGAAATTGGAGGAAGGGTTGTATTTAA-----	
E.c.	ACTTTGGAAATAGAAATGGGAGGAAGGTTTAA-----	
A.m.	ACTACGGCTTAACTTACCTTGAGCAAGATTCCTGTTCAGCTAA	*** * * * * * *** *** *

FIG. 2A

FIG. 2B

FIG. 2C

1 acatgtatacattatagtaacaaatgttaccgtatTTTattcataaggtaagtaaaatct  
61 ataccattctttcaCTTtatcagaagactttatTTatcacaactcatgacgtatag  
121 tgtcacaaataaacacactgcaactgcaatcactacgtaaaactttaactcttcttttc  
181 acaactaaaatactaataaaagtataatagtataaaaaatcttaagtaacTTGACAtaat  
-35  
241 attactctgataTAGCATatgtcttagtatctctatactaaacgtttatataattGGAGca  
-10  
301 tattaATGAAAGCTATCAAATTCACTACTTAATGTCTGCTTACTATTTGCAGCAATATTT  
M K A I K F I L N V C L L F A → A I F L  
361 TAGGGTATTCCCTATATTACAAAACAAGGCATAATTCAAACAAAACATCATGATAACACCTA  
G Y S Y I T K Q G I F Q T K H H D T P N  
421 ATACTACTATACCAATGAAGACGGTATTCAATCTAGCTTCTAGCTTATCAATCAAGACG  
T T I P N E D G I Q S S F S L I N Q D G  
481 GTAAAACAGTAACCAGCCAAGATTCCCTAGGGAAACACATGTAGTTAGTTGGATTCT  
K T V T S Q D F L G K H M L V L F G F S  
541 CTGCATGTAAAAGCATTGCCCCGAGAATTGGGATTAGTATCTGAAGCAGTGACAAAC  
A C K S I C P A E L G L V S E A L A Q L  
601 TTGGTAATAATGCAGACAAATTACAAGTAATTTTTATTACAATTGATCCAAAAATGATA  
G N N A D K L Q V I F I T I D P K N D T  
661 CTGTAGAAAAATTAAAAGAATTTCATGAACATTGATTCAGAAATTCAAATGTTAACAG  
V E K L K E F H E H F D S R I Q M L T G  
721 GAAATACTGAAGACATTAATCAAATAATTAAAATTATAAAATATGTTGGACAAGCAG  
N T E D I N Q I I K N Y K I Y V G Q A D  
781 ATAAAGATCATCAAATTAAACCATTGCAATAATGTACCTTATTGACAAAAAGGATCAT  
K D H Q I N H S A I M Y L I D K K G S Y  
841 ATCTTTCACACTTCATTCCAGATTAAAATCACAAGAAAATCAAGTAGATAAGTTACTAT  
L S H F I P D L K S Q E N Q V D K L L S  
901 CTTTAGTTAAGCAGTATCTGTAAtttaataattAAAGagaatagtacacaCTTTtt  
L V K Q Y L \*  
961 ataaattcatggaatacgttggatgagtaggttttttagtatttttagtgctaataac  
1021 attggcat

## FIG. 3A

1 ggaaatctcatgtaaaacgtgaaatactatattttttaataccaaatacaattgaata  
 61 caaaaaaaaaacttttacaacttattatgttatcttaaaaccttatttaagattccttatg  
 121 tcacaaaataacaaaaatactatttacaaaatacaccacaatttcataaaaaaaa  
 181 ctatacactttattatactacagttagatataccataaaagatttaagtaacTTGACAta  
 241 atattacccgttaTAGCATatgattcagtattttatattaaatttattatgtattGGA  
 -10  
 301 GcataaaATGAAAGTTATCAAATTATACTTAATATCTGTTTATTATTCAGCAATT  
     M K V I K F I L N I C L L F A →A I F  
 361 TCTAGGATATTCCCTACGTAAACAAAACAAGGCATTTCAAGTAAGAGATCATAACACTCC  
     L G Y S Y V T K Q G I F Q V R D H N T P  
 421 CAATACAAATATATCAAATAAGCCAGCATTACTACTAGTTTCGTTAGTAAATCAAGA  
     N T N I S N K A S I T T S F S L V N Q D  
 481 TGGAAATACAGTAAATAGTCAGGATTTGGGAAAATACATGCTAGTTTATTTGGATT  
     G N T V N S Q D F L G K Y M L V L F G F  
 541 TTCTTCATGAAAAGCATCTGCCCTGCTGAATTAGGAATAGCATCTGAAGTTCTCTCACA  
     S S C K S I C P A E L G I A S E V L S Q  
 601 GCTTGGTAATGACACAGACAAGTTACAAGTAATTTCATTACAATTGATCCAACAAATGA  
     L G N D T D K L Q V I F I T I D P T N D  
 661 TACTGTACAAAATTAAAAACATTTCATGAACATTGATCCTAGAATTCAAATGCTAAC  
     T V Q K L K T F H E H F D P R I Q M L T  
 721 AGGCAGTGCAGAAGATATTGAAAAATAATAAAAAATTACAAAATATGTTGGACAAGC  
     G S A E D I E K I I K N Y K I Y V G Q A  
 781 AGATAAAAGATAATCAAATTGATCACTCTGCCATAATGTACATTATCGATAAAAAGGAGA  
     D K D N Q I D H S A I M Y I I D K K G E  
 841 ATACATTTCACACTTTCTCCAGATTTAAACATCAACAGAAAATCAAGTAGATAAGTTACT  
     Y I S H F S P D L K S T E N Q V D K L L  
 901 ATCTATAATAAAACAATATCTCTAAttaataattaattAAGAGAatagtacacaCTCT  
     S I I K Q Y L \*  
 961 Tatataaaattcatggatatatgtgatggtagatttttttgtgttttatacgctaatt  
 1021 acatta

## FIG. 3B

## SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> University of Florida

<120> Nucleic Acid Vaccines Against Rickettsial Diseases and  
Methods of use

<130> UF-167C3

<140>

<141>

<150> 08/953,326

<151> 1997-10-17

<150> 08/733,230

<151> 1996-10-17

<160> 34

<170> PatentIn Ver. 2.0

<210> 1

<211> 864

<212> DNA

<213> Cowdria ruminantium

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (1)..(861)

<400> 1

atg aat tgc aag aaa att ttt atc aca agt aca cta ata tca tta gtg      48  
Met Asn Cys Lys Lys Ile Phe Ile Thr Ser Thr Leu Ile Ser Leu Val  
  1                5                10                15

tca ttt tta cct ggt gtg tcc ttt tct gat gta ata cag gaa gac agc      96  
Ser Phe Leu Pro Gly Val Ser Phe Ser Asp Val Ile Gln Glu Asp Ser  
  20                25                30

aac cca gca ggc agt gtt tac att agc gca aaa tac atg cca act gca      144  
Asn Pro Ala Gly Ser Val Tyr Ile Ser Ala Lys Tyr Met Pro Thr Ala  
  35                40                45

tca cat ttt ggt aaa atg tca atc aaa gaa gat tca aaa aat act caa      192  
Ser His Phe Gly Lys Met Ser Ile Lys Glu Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr Gln  
  50                55                60

acg gta ttt ggt cta aaa aaa gat tgg gat ggc gtt aaa aca cca tca      240  
Thr Val Phe Gly Leu Lys Lys Asp Trp Asp Gly Val Lys Thr Pro Ser  
  65                70                75                80

gat tct agc aat act aat tct aca att ttt act gaa aaa gac tat tct      288

Asp Ser Ser Asn Thr Asn Ser Thr Ile Phe Thr Glu Lys Asp Tyr Ser			
85	90	95	
ttc aga tat gaa aac aat ccg ttt tta ggt ttc gct gga gca att ggg 336			
Phe Arg Tyr Glu Asn Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly			
100	105	110	
tac tca atg aat gga cca aga ata gag ttc gaa gta tcc tat gaa act 384			
Tyr Ser Met Asn Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Phe Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr			
115	120	125	
ttt gat gta aaa aac cta ggt ggc aac tat aaa aac aac gca cac atg 432			
Phe Asp Val Lys Asn Leu Gly Asn Tyr Lys Asn Asn Ala His Met			
130	135	140	
tac tgt gct tta gat aca gca gca caa aat agc act aat ggc gca gga 480			
Tyr Cys Ala Leu Asp Thr Ala Ala Gln Asn Ser Thr Asn Gly Ala Gly			
145	150	155	160
tta act aca tct gtt atg gta aaa aac gaa aat tta aca aat ata tca 528			
Leu Thr Thr Ser Val Met Val Lys Asn Glu Asn Leu Thr Asn Ile Ser			
165	170	175	
tta atg tta aat gcg tgt tat gat atc atg ctt gat gga ata cca gtt 576			
Leu Met Leu Asn Ala Cys Tyr Asp Ile Met Leu Asp Gly Ile Pro Val			
180	185	190	
tct cca tat gta tgt gca ggt att ggc act gac tta gtg tca gta att 624			
Ser Pro Tyr Val Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Val Ser Val Ile			
195	200	205	
aat gct aca aat cct aaa tta tct tat caa gga aag cta ggc ata agt 672			
Asn Ala Thr Asn Pro Lys Leu Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Ile Ser			
210	215	220	
tac tca atc aat tct gaa gct tct atc ttt atc ggt gga cat ttc cat 720			
Tyr Ser Ile Asn Ser Glu Ala Ser Ile Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His			
225	230	235	240
aga gtt ata ggt aat gaa ttt aaa gat att gct acc tta aaa ata ttt 768			
Arg Val Ile Gly Asn Glu Phe Lys Asp Ile Ala Thr Leu Lys Ile Phe			
245	250	255	
act tca aaa aca gga ata tct aat cct ggc ttt gca tca gca aca ctt 816			
Thr Ser Lys Thr Gly Ile Ser Asn Pro Gly Phe Ala Ser Ala Thr Leu			
260	265	270	
gat gtt tgt cac ttt ggt ata gaa att gga gga agg ttt gta ttt taa 864			
Asp Val Cys His Phe Gly Ile Glu Ile Gly Gly Arg Phe Val Phe			
275	280	285	

<210> 2  
<211> 287  
<212> PRT

&lt;213&gt; Cowdria ruminantium

&lt;400&gt; 2

Met Asn Cys Lys Lys Ile Phe Ile Thr Ser Thr Leu Ile Ser Leu Val  
1 5 10 15

Ser Phe Leu Pro Gly Val Ser Phe Ser Asp Val Ile Gln Glu Asp Ser  
20 25 30

Asn Pro Ala Gly Ser Val Tyr Ile Ser Ala Lys Tyr Met Pro Thr Ala  
35 40 45

Ser His Phe Gly Lys Met Ser Ile Lys Glu Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr Gln  
50 55 60

Thr Val Phe Gly Leu Lys Lys Asp Trp Asp Gly Val Lys Thr Pro Ser  
65 70 75 80

Asp Ser Ser Asn Thr Asn Ser Thr Ile Phe Thr Glu Lys Asp Tyr Ser  
85 90 95

Phe Arg Tyr Glu Asn Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly  
100 105 110

Tyr Ser Met Asn Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Phe Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr  
115 120 125

Phe Asp Val Lys Asn Leu Gly Gly Asn Tyr Lys Asn Asn Ala His Met  
130 135 140

Tyr Cys Ala Leu Asp Thr Ala Ala Gln Asn Ser Thr Asn Gly Ala Gly  
145 150 155 160

Leu Thr Thr Ser Val Met Val Lys Asn Glu Asn Leu Thr Asn Ile Ser  
165 170 175

Leu Met Leu Asn Ala Cys Tyr Asp Ile Met Leu Asp Gly Ile Pro Val  
180 185 190

Ser Pro Tyr Val Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Val Ser Val Ile  
195 200 205

Asn Ala Thr Asn Pro Lys Leu Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Ile Ser  
210 215 220

Tyr Ser Ile Asn Ser Glu Ala Ser Ile Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His  
225 230 235 240

Arg Val Ile Gly Asn Glu Phe Lys Asp Ile Ala Thr Leu Lys Ile Phe  
245 250 255

Thr Ser Lys Thr Gly Ile Ser Asn Pro Gly Phe Ala Ser Ala Thr Leu  
260 265 270

Asp Val Cys His Phe Gly Ile Glu Ile Gly Gly Arg Phe Val Phe

275

280

285

<210> 3  
<211> 842  
<212> DNA  
<213> *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*

<220>  
<221> CDS  
<222> (1)...(840)

<400> 3  
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Met Asn Tyr Lys Lys Ser Phe Ile Thr Ala Ile Asp Ile Ile Asn Ile  
1 5 10 15

ctt ctc tta cct gga gta tca ttt tcc gac cca agg cag gta gtg gtc 96  
 Leu Leu Leu Pro Gly Val Ser Phe Ser Asp Pro Arg Gln Val Val Val  
                   20                  25                  30

att aac ggt aat ttc tac atc agt gga aaa tac gat gcc aag gct tcg 144  
Ile Asn Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Asp Ala Lys Ala Ser  
35 40 45

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cat ttt gga gta ttc tct gct aag gaa gaa aga aat aca aca gtt gga      192
His Phe Gly Val Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Arg Asn Thr Thr Val Gly
      50           55           60

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gtg ttt gga ctg aag caa aat tgg gac gga agc gca ata tcc aac tcc 240
Val Phe Gly Leu Lys Gln Asn Trp Asp Gly Ser Ala Ile Ser Asn Ser
      65           70           75           80

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tcc cca aac gat gta ttc act gtc tca aat tat tca ttt aaa tat gaa 288  
 Ser Pro Asn Asp Val Phe Thr Val Ser Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu  
                   85                  90                  95

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aac aac ccg ttt tta ggt ttt gca gga gct att ggt tac tca atg gat 336
Asn Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Met Asp
          100           105           110

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gg t cca aga ata gag ctt gaa gta tct tat gaa aca ttt gat gta aaa 384
Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr Phe Asp Val Lys
          115           120           125

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aat caa ggt aac aat tat aag aat gaa gca cat aga tat tgt gct cta 432  
Asn Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Glu Ala His Arg Tyr Cys Ala Leu  
130 135 140

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tcc cat aac tca gca gca gac atg agt agt gca agt aat aat ttt gtc 480
Ser His Asn Ser Ala Ala Asp Met Ser Ser Ala Ser Asn Asn Phe Val
145           150           155           160
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ttt cta aaa aat gaa tta ctt gac ata tca ttt atg ctg aac gca 528  
Phe Leu Lys Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Ile Ser Phe Met Leu Asn Ala

5

165 170 175

tgc tat gac gta gta ggc gaa ggc ata cct ttt tct cct tat ata tgc 576  
 Cys Tyr Asp Val Val Gly Glu Gly Ile Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys  
 180 185 190

gca ggt atc ggt act gat tta gta tcc atg ttt gaa gct aca aat cct 624  
 Ala Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Val Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Thr Asn Pro  
 195 200 205

aaa att tct tac caa gga aag tta ggt tta agc tac tct ata agc cca 672  
 Lys Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Ser Ile Ser Pro  
 210 215 220

gaa gct tct gtg ttt att ggt ggg cac ttt cat aag gta ata ggg aac 720  
 Glu Ala Ser Val Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn  
 225 230 235 240

gaa ttt aga gat att cct act ata ata cct act gga tca aca ctt gca 768  
 Glu Phe Arg Asp Ile Pro Thr Ile Ile Pro Thr Gly Ser Thr Leu Ala  
 245 250 255

gga aaa gga aac tac cct gca ata gta ata ctg gat gta tgc cac ttt 816  
 Gly Lys Gly Asn Tyr Pro Ala Ile Val Ile Leu Asp Val Cys His Phe  
 260 265 270

gga ata gaa atg gga gga agg ttt aa 842  
 Gly Ile Glu Met Gly Gly Arg Phe  
 275 280

<210> 4  
<211> 280  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 4  
Met Asn Tyr Lys Lys Ser Phe Ile Thr Ala Ile Asp Ile Ile Asn Ile  
 1 5 10 15

Leu Leu Leu Pro Gly Val Ser Phe Ser Asp Pro Arg Gln Val Val Val  
 20 25 30  
Ile Asn Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Asp Ala Lys Ala Ser  
 35 40 45

His Phe Gly Val Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Arg Asn Thr Thr Val Gly  
 50 55 60

Val Phe Gly Leu Lys Gln Asn Trp Asp Gly Ser Ala Ile Ser Asn Ser  
 65 70 75 80

Ser Pro Asn Asp Val Phe Thr Val Ser Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu  
 85 90 95

Asn Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Met Asp  
100 105 110

Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr Phe Asp Val Lys  
115 120 125

Asn Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Glu Ala His Arg Tyr Cys Ala Leu  
130 135 140

Ser His Asn Ser Ala Ala Asp Met Ser Ser Ala Ser Asn Asn Phe Val  
145 150 155 160

Phe Leu Lys Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Ile Ser Phe Met Leu Asn Ala  
165 170 175

Cys Tyr Asp Val Val Gly Glu Gly Ile Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys  
180 185 190

Ala Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Val Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Thr Asn Pro  
195 200 205

Lys Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Ser Ile Ser Pro  
210 215 220

Glu Ala Ser Val Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn  
225 230 235 240

Glu Phe Arg Asp Ile Pro Thr Ile Ile Pro Thr Gly Ser Thr Leu Ala  
245 250 255

Gly Lys Gly Asn Tyr Pro Ala Ile Val Ile Leu Asp Val Cys His Phe  
260 265 270

Gly Ile Glu Met Gly Gly Arg Phe  
275 280

<210> 5  
<211> 849  
<212> DNA  
<213> Anaplasma marginale

<220>  
<221> CDS  
<222> (1)...(846)

<400> 5

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1 5 10 15	
tgc gcc tgc tcc cta ctt gtt agt ggg gcc gta gtg gca tct ccc atg Cys Ala Cys Ser Leu Leu Val Ser Gly Ala Val Val Ala Ser Pro Met	96
20 25 30	
agt cac gaa gtg gct tct gaa ggg gga gta atg gga ggt agc ttt tac Ser His Glu Val Ala Ser Glu Gly Gly Val Met Gly Ser Phe Tyr	144
35 40 45	
gtg ggt gcg gcc tac agc cca gca ttt cct tct gtt acc tcg ttc gac Val Gly Ala Ala Tyr Ser Pro Ala Phe Pro Ser Val Thr Ser Phe Asp	192
50 55 60	
atg cgt gag tca agc aaa gag acc tca tac gtt aga ggc tat gac aag Met Arg Glu Ser Ser Lys Glu Thr Ser Tyr Val Arg Gly Tyr Asp Lys	240
65 70 75 80	
agc att gca acg att gat gtg agt gtg cca gca aac ttt tcc aaa tct Ser Ile Ala Thr Ile Asp Val Ser Val Pro Ala Asn Phe Ser Lys Ser	288
85 90 95	
ggc tac act ttt gcc ttc tct aaa aac tta atc acg tct ttc gac ggc Gly Tyr Thr Phe Ala Phe Ser Lys Asn Leu Ile Thr Ser Phe Asp Gly	336
100 105 110	
gct gtg gga tat tct ctg gga gga gcc aga gtg gaa ttg gaa gcg agc Ala Val Gly Tyr Ser Leu Gly Gly Ala Arg Val Glu Leu Glu Ala Ser	384
115 120 125	
tac aga agg ttt gct act ttg gcg gac ggg cag tac gca aaa agt ggt Tyr Arg Arg Phe Ala Thr Leu Ala Asp Gly Gln Tyr Ala Lys Ser Gly	432
130 135 140	
gcg gaa tct ctg gca gct att acc cgc gac gct aac att act gag acc Ala Glu Ser Leu Ala Ala Ile Thr Arg Asp Ala Asn Ile Thr Glu Thr	480
145 150 155 160	
aat tac ttc gta gtc aaa att gat gaa atc aca aac acc tca gtc atg Asn Tyr Phe Val Val Lys Ile Asp Glu Ile Thr Asn Thr Ser Val Met	528
165 170 175	
tta aat ggc tgc tat gac gtg ctg cac aca gat tta cct gtg tcc ccg Leu Asn Gly Cys Tyr Asp Val Leu His Thr Asp Leu Pro Val Ser Pro	576
180 185 190	
tat gta tgt gcc ggg ata ggc gca agc ttt gtt gac atc tct aag caa Tyr Val Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Ala Ser Phe Val Asp Ile Ser Lys Gln	624
195 200 205	
gta acc aca aag ctg gcc tac agg ggc aag gtt ggg att agc tac cag Val Thr Thr Lys Leu Ala Tyr Arg Gly Lys Val Gly Ile Ser Tyr Gln	672
210 215 220	

ttt act ccg gaa ata tcc ttg gtg gca ggt ggg ttc tac cac ggg cta 720  
 Phe Thr Pro Glu Ile Ser Leu Val Ala Gly Gly Phe Tyr His Gly Leu  
 225 230 235 240

ttt gat gag tct tac aag gac att ccc gca cac aac agt gta aag ttc 768  
 Phe Asp Glu Ser Tyr Lys Asp Ile Pro Ala His Asn Ser Val Lys Phe  
 245 250 255

tct gga gaa gca aaa gcc tca gtc aaa gcg cat att gct gac tac ggc 816  
 Ser Gly Glu Ala Lys Ala Ser Val Lys Ala His Ile Ala Asp Tyr Gly  
 260 265 270

ttt aac ctt gga gca aga ttc ctg ttc agc taa 849  
 Phe Asn Leu Gly Ala Arg Phe Leu Phe Ser  
 275 280

<210> 6  
<211> 282  
<212> PRT  
<213> Anaplasma marginale

<400> 6  
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 1 5 10 15

Cys Ala Cys Ser Leu Leu Val Ser Gly Ala Val Val Ala Ser Pro Met  
 20 25 30

Ser His Glu Val Ala Ser Glu Gly Gly Val Met Gly Gly Ser Phe Tyr  
 35 40 45

Val Gly Ala Ala Tyr Ser Pro Ala Phe Pro Ser Val Thr Ser Phe Asp  
 50 55 60

Met Arg Glu Ser Ser Lys Glu Thr Ser Tyr Val Arg Gly Tyr Asp Lys  
 65 70 75 80

Ser Ile Ala Thr Ile Asp Val Ser Val Pro Ala Asn Phe Ser Lys Ser  
 85 90 95

Gly Tyr Thr Phe Ala Phe Ser Lys Asn Leu Ile Thr Ser Phe Asp Gly  
 100 105 110

Ala Val Gly Tyr Ser Leu Gly Gly Ala Arg Val Glu Leu Glu Ala Ser  
 115 120 125

Tyr Arg Arg Phe Ala Thr Leu Ala Asp Gly Gln Tyr Ala Lys Ser Gly  
 130 135 140

Ala Glu Ser Leu Ala Ala Ile Thr Arg Asp Ala Asn Ile Thr Glu Thr  
 145 150 155 160

Asn Tyr Phe Val Val Lys Ile Asp Glu Ile Thr Asn Thr Ser Val Met  
 165 170 175

Leu Asn Gly Cys Tyr Asp Val Leu His Thr Asp Leu Pro Val Ser Pro  
180 185 190

Tyr Val Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Ala Ser Phe Val Asp Ile Ser Lys Gln  
195 200 205

Val Thr Thr Lys Leu Ala Tyr Arg Gly Lys Val Gly Ile Ser Tyr Gln  
210 215 220

Phe Thr Pro Glu Ile Ser Leu Val Ala Gly Gly Phe Tyr His Gly Leu  
225 230 235 240

Phe Asp Glu Ser Tyr Lys Asp Ile Pro Ala His Asn Ser Val Lys Phe  
245 250 255

Ser Gly Glu Ala Lys Ala Ser Val Lys Ala His Ile Ala Asp Tyr Gly  
260 265 270

Phe Asn Leu Gly Ala Arg Phe Leu Phe Ser  
275 280

<210> 7  
<211> 132  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 7  
ggaatgaattt cagggacattt tctactctta aagcggtttgc tacaccatca tctgcagcta 60  
ctccagactt agcaacagta acactgagtg tgtgtcactt tggagtagaa ctggaggaa 120  
gatttaactt ct 132

<210> 8  
<211> 861  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 8  
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ctggaatatc actttctgtat ccagtacagg atgacaacat tagtgtaat ttctacatca 120  
gtggaaaagta tatgccaagc gcttcgcatt ttggagttt ttctgccaag gaagaaaagaa 180  
atacaacagt tggagtattt ggaatagagc aagattggga tagatgtgta atatctagaa 240  
ccactttaag cgatataattc accgttccaa attattcatt taagtatgaa aataatctat 300  
tttcaggatt tgcaggagct attggctact caatggatgg cccagaata gagcttgaag 360  
tatcttatga agcatttcgat gttaaaaatc aaggtAACAA ttataagaac gaagcacata 420

10

gatattatgc tctgtcccat cttctcgca cagagacaca gatagatggt gcaggcagtg 480  
cgtctgtctt tctaataaat gaaggactac ttgataaaatc atttatgctg aacgcattgtt 540  
atgatgtaat aagtgaaggc atacctttt ctccttataat atgtcaggt attggatttg 600  
attttagtatac catgttgaa gctataaaatc ctaaaaatttc ttatcaagga aaatttaggct 660  
taagttaccc tataagccc gaagcttctg tgtttattgg tggacatttt cataaggtga 720  
taggaaacga attttagagat attcctacta tgatacctag tgaatcagcg cttgcaggaa 780  
aaggaaaacta ccctgcaata gtaacactgg acgtgttcta ctttggcata gaacttggag 840  
gaaggtttaa ctccaactt t 861

<210> 9  
<211> 837  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 9  
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ctggaatatac attttctgat ccagtgcag gtgacaatata tagtgtaat ttctatgtta 120  
gtggcaagta tatgccaaatgt gcttcgcatt ttggcatgtt ttctgccaaa gaagaaaaaaa 180  
atcctactgt tgcattgtat ggcttaaaac aagattggga agggatttagc tcatcaagtc 240  
acaatgataa tcatttcaat aacaagggtt attcattttaa atatgaaaat aacccatttt 300  
tagggtttgc aggagctatt ggttattcaa tgggtggtcc aagagtagag tttgaagtgt 360  
cctatgaaac atttgcgtt aaaaatcagg gtaataacta taaaaatgtat gctcacagat 420  
actgtgctt aggtcaacaa gacaacagcg gaatacctaa aactagtaaa tacgtactgt 480  
taaaaagcga aggattgctt gacatatcat ttatgctaaa tgcatgctat gatataataa 540  
acgagagcat acctttgtct cttacatata gtgcagggtgt tggtaactgtat ttaatatcca 600  
tgtttgaagc tacaaatcct aaaatttctt accaaggaa gtttaggtcta agttactcta 660  
taaaccaga agcttctgta tttattgggtg gacatttca taaggtgata ggaaacgaat 720  
ttagggacat tcctactctg aaagcatttg ttacgtcatc agctactcca gatctagcaa 780  
tagtaacact aagtgtatgt cattttggaa tagaacttgg aggaaggttt aacttct 837

<210> 10  
<211> 843  
<212> DNA

11

&lt;213&gt; Ehrlichia chaffeensis

&lt;400&gt; 10

atatgaattt caaaaaattt tttataacaa ctacattgt atcgctaattg tccttcttac 60  
ctggaatatc atttctgat gcagtgacaga acgacaatgt tggtggtaat ttctatata 120  
gtggaaata tgtaccaagt gttcacatt ttggcgtatt ctctgctaaa caggaaagaa 180  
atacaacaat cgaggatattt ggattaaagc aagattggga tggcagcaca atatctaaa 240  
attctccaga aaatacattt aacgttccaa attattcatt taaatatgaa aataatccat 300  
ttcttaggttt tgcaggagct gttggattt taatgaatgg tccaagaata gagttagaaa 360  
tgtcctatga aacatttgat gtgaaaaacc agggtaataa ctataagaac gatgctcaca 420  
aatattatgc tttaacccat aacagtgggg gaaagctaag caatgcaggt gataagttt 480  
ttttctaaa aaatgaagga ctacttgata tatcacttat gttgaatgca tgctatgatg 540  
taataagtga aggaataacct ttcttcctt acatatgtgc aggtgttggt actgatttaa 600  
tatccatgtt tgaagctata aaccctaaaa tttcttatca aggaaagtta gtttgagtt 660  
actccataag cccagaagct tctgttttg ttgggtggaca tttcataag gtgataggaa 720  
atgaattcag agatattcct gctatgatac ccagtacctc aactctcaca ggtaatcact 780  
ttactatagt aacactaagt gtatgccact ttggagtggaa acttggagga aggtttaact 840  
ttt 843

&lt;210&gt; 11

&lt;211&gt; 830

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Ehrlichia chaffeensis

&lt;400&gt; 11

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ctggagtatc atttccgac ccagcaggta gtggattaa cgtaatttc tacatcagt 120  
gaaaatacat gccaagtgtc tgcattttg gagtattctc tgctaaggaa gaaagaaata 180  
caacagttgg agtgtttggc ctgaagcaaatttggacgg aagcgcaata tccaactcct 240  
ccccaaacga tgtattcact gtctcaaattt attcattaa atatgaaaac aaccgtttt 300  
taggtttgc aggagctattt ggttactcaa tggatggtcc aagaatagag cttgaagtt 360  
cttatgaaac atttgatgtaa aaaaatcaag gtaacaatta taagaatgaa gcacatagat 420  
attgtgtct atcccataac tcagcagcag acatgagtag tgcaagtaat aattttgtct 480

12

ttctaaaaaaaaa tgaaggatta cttgacatat catttatgct gaacgcattgc tatgacgtag 540  
taggcgaagg catacccttt tctccttata tatgcgcagg tatcggtact gathtagtat 600  
ccatgtttga agctacaat cctaaaattt cttaccaagg aaagtttagt ttaagctact 660  
ctataagccc agaagcttct gtgtttattt gtgggcactt tcataaggta atagggaaacg 720  
aatttagaga tattcctact ataataccta ctggatcaac acttgcagga aaaggaaact 780  
accctgcaat agtaatactg gatgtatgcc actttggaaat agaaatggga 830

<210> 12  
<211> 864  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia canis

<400> 12  
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gaaaatataat gccaacagcg tcacattttgg aatttttc agctaaagaa gaacaaagtt 180  
ttactaaggt attagttggg ttagatcaac gattatcaca taatattata aacaataatg 240  
atacagcaaa gagtcttaag gttcaaaattt attcattaa atacaaaaat aaccatttc 300  
taggatttgc aggagctatt ggttattcaa taggcaattc aagaatagaa ctagaagtat 360  
cacatgaaat atttgatact aaaaacccag gaaacaatta tttaaatgac tctcacaaat 420  
attgcgcctt atctcatgga agtcacatat gcagtgtatgg aaatagcgga gattggtaca 480  
ctgcaaaaac tgataagttt gtacttctga aaaatgaagg tttacttgac gtctcattta 540  
tgttaaacgc atgttatgac ataaacaactg aaaaaatgcc ttttcacct tatatatgtg 600  
caggtattgg tactgatctc atatctatgt ttgagacaac acaaaaacaaa atatcttac 660  
aaggaaaggt aggtttaaac tatactataa actcaagagt ttctgtttt gcaggtgggc 720  
actttcataa ggtaataggt aatgaattta aaggtattcc tactctatta cctgatggat 780  
caaacattaa agtacaacag tctgcaacag taacattaga tgtgtgccat ttcgggttag 840  
agattggaag tagattttc tttt 864

<210> 13  
<211> 399  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia canis

<400> 13  
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 cagggaaagta catgccaagt gttcctcatt ttggaaattt ttcagctgaa gaagagaaaa 180  
 aaaagacaac tgtatatat ggcttaaaag aaaactgggc aggagatgca atatctagtc 240  
 aaagtccaga tgataatttt accattcgaa attactcatt caagtatgca agcaacaagt 300  
 ttttagggtt tgcagtagct attggttact cgataggcag tccaagaata gaagttgaga 360  
 tgtcttatga agcatttgat gtaaaaaatc aaggtaaca 399

<210> 14  
<211> 43  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 14  
 Asn Glu Phe Arg Asp Ile Ser Thr Leu Lys Ala Phe Ala Thr Pro Ser  
 1 5 10 15  
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 Phe Gly Val Glu Leu Gly Arg Phe Asn Phe  
 35 40

<210> 15  
<211> 286  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 15  
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 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Phe Leu Pro Gly Ile Ser Leu Ser Asp Pro Val Gln Asp Asp Asn  
 20 25 30  
 Ile Ser Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Met Pro Ser Ala Ser  
 35 40 45  
 His Phe Gly Val Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Arg Asn Thr Thr Val Gly  
 50 55 60  
 Val Phe Gly Ile Glu Gln Asp Trp Asp Arg Cys Val Ile Ser Arg Thr  
 65 70 75 80  
 Thr Leu Ser Asp Ile Phe Thr Val Pro Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu  
 85 90 95

14

Asn Asn Leu Phe Ser Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Met Asp  
 100 105 110  
  
 Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Ala Phe Asp Val Lys  
 115 120 125  
  
 Asn Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Glu Ala His Arg Tyr Tyr Ala Leu  
 130 135 140  
  
 Ser His Leu Leu Gly Thr Glu Thr Gln Ile Asp Gly Ala Gly Ser Ala  
 145 150 155 160  
  
 Ser Val Phe Leu Ile Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Lys Ser Phe Met Leu  
 165 170 175  
  
 Asn Ala Cys Tyr Asp Val Ile Ser Glu Gly Ile Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr  
 180 185 190  
  
 Ile Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Ile Asp Leu Val Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Ile  
 195 200 205  
  
 Asn Pro Lys Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Pro Ile  
 210 215 220  
  
 Ser Pro Glu Ala Ser Val Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile  
 225 230 235 240  
  
 Gly Asn Glu Phe Arg Asp Ile Pro Thr Met Ile Pro Ser Glu Ser Ala  
 245 250 255  
  
 Leu Ala Gly Lys Gly Asn Tyr Pro Ala Ile Val Thr Leu Asp Val Phe  
 260 265 270  
  
 Tyr Phe Gly Ile Glu Leu Gly Arg Phe Asn Phe Gln Leu  
 275 280 285

<210> 16  
 <211> 278  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*

<400> 16  
 Met Asn Cys Lys Lys Phe Phe Ile Thr Thr Ala Leu Val Ser Leu Met  
 1 5 10 15  
  
 Ser Phe Leu Pro Gly Ile Ser Phe Ser Asp Pro Val Gln Gly Asp Asn  
 20 25 30  
  
 Ile Ser Gly Asn Phe Tyr Val Ser Gly Lys Tyr Met Pro Ser Ala Ser  
 35 40 45  
  
 His Phe Gly Met Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Lys Asn Pro Thr Val Ala  
 50 55 60

15

Leu Tyr Gly Leu Lys Gln Asp Trp Glu Gly Ile Ser Ser Ser His  
 65                   70                   75                   80

Asn Asp Asn His Phe Asn Asn Lys Gly Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu Asn  
 85                   90                   95

Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Met Gly Gly  
 100               105               110

Pro Arg Val Glu Phe Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr Phe Asp Val Lys Asn  
 115               120               125

Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Asp Ala His Arg Tyr Cys Ala Leu Gly  
 130               135               140

Gln Gln Asp Asn Ser Gly Ile Pro Lys Thr Ser Lys Tyr Val Leu Leu  
 145               150               155               160

Lys Ser Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Ile Ser Phe Met Leu Asn Ala Cys Tyr  
 165               170               175

Asp Ile Ile Asn Glu Ser Ile Pro Leu Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys Ala Gly  
 180               185               190

Val Gly Thr Asp Leu Ile Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Thr Asn Pro Lys Ile  
 195               200               205

Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Ser Ile Asn Pro Glu Ala  
 210               215               220

Ser Val Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn Glu Phe  
 225               230               235               240

Arg Asp Ile Pro Thr Leu Lys Ala Phe Val Thr Ser Ser Ala Thr Pro  
 245               250               255

Asp Leu Ala Ile Val Thr Leu Ser Val Cys His Phe Gly Ile Glu Leu  
 260               265               270

Gly Gly Arg Phe Asn Phe  
 275

<210> 17  
<211> 280  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 17  
Met Asn Cys Lys Lys Phe Phe Ile Thr Thr Thr Leu Val Ser Leu Met  
 1               5               10               15

Ser Phe Leu Pro Gly Ile Ser Phe Ser Asp Ala Val Gln Asn Asp Asn  
 20               25               30

Val Gly Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Val Pro Ser Val Ser  
35 40 45

His Phe Gly Val Phe Ser Ala Lys Gln Glu Arg Asn Thr Thr Ile Gly  
50 55 60

Val Phe Gly Leu Lys Gln Asp Trp Asp Gly Ser Thr Ile Ser Lys Asn  
65 70 75 80

Ser Pro Glu Asn Thr Phe Asn Val Pro Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu  
85 90 95

Asn Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Val Gly Tyr Leu Met Asn  
100 105 110

Gly Pro Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Met Ser Tyr Glu Thr Phe Asp Val Lys  
115 120 125

Asn Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Asp Ala His Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Leu  
130 135 140

Thr His Asn Ser Gly Gly Lys Leu Ser Asn Ala Gly Asp Lys Phe Val  
145 150 155 160

Phe Leu Lys Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Ile Ser Leu Met Leu Asn Ala  
165 170 175

Cys Tyr Asp Val Ile Ser Glu Gly Ile Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys  
180 185 190

Ala Gly Val Gly Thr Asp Leu Ile Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Ile Asn Pro  
195 200 205

Lys Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Ser Ile Ser Pro  
210 215 220

Glu Ala Ser Val Phe Val Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn  
225 230 235 240

Glu Phe Arg Asp Ile Pro Ala Met Ile Pro Ser Thr Ser Thr Leu Thr  
245 250 255

Gly Asn His Phe Thr Ile Val Thr Leu Ser Val Cys His Phe Gly Val  
260 265 270

Glu Leu Gly Gly Arg Phe Asn Phe  
275 280

<210> 18  
<211> 276  
<212> PRT  
<213> *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*

<400> 18

17

Met Asn Tyr Lys Lys Val Phe Ile Thr Ser Ala Leu Ile Ser Leu Ile  
1 5 10 15

Ser Ser Leu Pro Gly Val Ser Phe Ser Asp Pro Ala Gly Ser Gly Ile  
20 25 30

Asn Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Met Pro Ser Ala Ser His  
35 40 45

Phe Gly Val Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Arg Asn Thr Thr Val Gly Val  
50 55 60

Phe Gly Leu Lys Gln Asn Trp Asp Gly Ser Ala Ile Ser Asn Ser Ser  
65 70 75 80

Pro Asn Asp Val Phe Thr Val Ser Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Glu Asn  
85 90 95

Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Met Asp Gly  
100 105 110

Pro Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Val Ser Tyr Glu Thr Phe Asp Val Lys Asn  
115 120 125

Gln Gly Asn Asn Tyr Lys Asn Glu Ala His Arg Tyr Cys Ala Leu Ser  
130 135 140

His Asn Ser Ala Ala Asp Met Ser Ser Ala Ser Asn Asn Phe Val Phe  
145 150 155 160

Leu Lys Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp Ile Ser Phe Met Leu Asn Ala Cys  
165 170 175

Tyr Asp Val Val Gly Glu Gly Ile Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys Ala  
180 185 190

Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Val Ser Met Phe Glu Ala Thr Asn Pro Lys  
195 200 205

Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly Leu Ser Tyr Ser Ile Ser Pro Glu  
210 215 220

Ala Ser Val Phe Ile Gly Gly His Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn Glu  
225 230 235 240

Phe Arg Asp Ile Pro Thr Ile Ile Pro Thr Gly Ser Thr Leu Ala Gly  
245 250 255

Lys Gly Asn Tyr Pro Ala Ile Val Ile Leu Asp Val Cys His Phe Gly  
260 265 270

Ile Glu Met Gly  
275

<210> 19  
<211> 287  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia canis

<400> 19  
Met Lys Tyr Lys Lys Thr Phe Thr Val Thr Ala Leu Val Leu Leu Thr  
1 5 10 15  
Ser Phe Thr His Phe Ile Pro Phe Tyr Ser Pro Ala Arg Ala Ser Thr  
20 25 30  
Ile His Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Met Pro Thr Ala Ser His  
35 40 45  
Phe Gly Ile Phe Ser Ala Lys Glu Glu Gln Ser Phe Thr Lys Val Leu  
50 55 60  
Val Gly Leu Asp Gln Arg Leu Ser His Asn Ile Ile Asn Asn Asn Asp  
65 70 75 80  
Thr Ala Lys Ser Leu Lys Val Gln Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Lys Asn  
85 90 95  
Asn Pro Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Gly Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Ile Gly Asn  
100 105 110  
Ser Arg Ile Glu Leu Glu Val Ser His Glu Ile Phe Asp Thr Lys Asn  
115 120 125  
Pro Gly Asn Asn Tyr Leu Asn Asp Ser His Lys Tyr Cys Ala Leu Ser  
130 135 140  
His Gly Ser His Ile Cys Ser Asp Gly Asn Ser Gly Asp Trp Tyr Thr  
145 150 155 160  
Ala Lys Thr Asp Lys Phe Val Leu Leu Lys Asn Glu Gly Leu Leu Asp  
165 170 175  
Val Ser Phe Met Leu Asn Ala Cys Tyr Asp Ile Thr Thr Glu Lys Met  
180 185 190  
Pro Phe Ser Pro Tyr Ile Cys Ala Gly Ile Gly Thr Asp Leu Ile Ser  
195 200 205  
Met Phe Glu Thr Thr Gln Asn Lys Ile Ser Tyr Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly  
210 215 220  
Leu Asn Tyr Thr Ile Asn Ser Arg Val Ser Val Phe Ala Gly Gly His  
225 230 235 240  
Phe His Lys Val Ile Gly Asn Glu Phe Lys Gly Ile Pro Thr Leu Leu  
245 250 255

19

Pro Asp Gly Ser Asn Ile Lys Val Gln Gln Ser Ala Thr Val Thr Leu  
 260                    265                    270

Asp Val Cys His Phe Gly Leu Glu Ile Gly Ser Arg Phe Phe Phe  
 275                    280                    285

<210> 20  
<211> 133  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia canis

<400> 20  
Met Asn Cys Lys Lys Val Phe Thr Ile Ser Ala Leu Ile Ser Ser Ile  
 1                    5                    10                    15

Tyr Phe Leu Pro Asn Val Ser Tyr Ser Asn Pro Val Tyr Gly Asn Ser  
 20                    25                    30

Met Tyr Gly Asn Phe Tyr Ile Ser Gly Lys Tyr Met Pro Ser Val Pro  
 35                    40                    45

His Phe Gly Ile Phe Ser Ala Glu Glu Lys Lys Lys Thr Thr Val  
 50                    55                    60

Val Tyr Gly Leu Lys Glu Asn Trp Ala Gly Asp Ala Ile Ser Ser Gln  
 65                    70                    75                    80

Ser Pro Asp Asp Asn Phe Thr Ile Arg Asn Tyr Ser Phe Lys Tyr Ala  
 85                    90                    95

Ser Asn Lys Phe Leu Gly Phe Ala Val Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser Ile Gly  
 100                    105                    110

Ser Pro Arg Ile Glu Val Glu Met Ser Tyr Glu Ala Phe Asp Val Lys  
 115                    120                    125

Asn Gln Gly Asn Asn  
 130

<210> 21  
<211> 686  
<212> DNA  
<213> Ehrlichia canis

<400> 21  
atgaaagcta tcaaattcat acttaatgtc tgcttactat ttgcagcaat attttttaggg 60  
tattcctata ttacaaaaca aggcataattt caaacaaaaac atcatgatac acctaatact 120  
actataccaa atgaagacgg tattcaatct agcttttagct taatcaatca agacggtaaa 180  
acagtaacca gccaaaggattt cctagggaaa cacatgttag ttttgtttgg attctctgca 240

20

tgtaaaagca tttgccctgc agaattggga ttagtatctg aagcacttgc acaacttgg 300  
 aataatgcag acaaattaca agtaattttt attacaattg atccaaaaaa tgatactgta 360  
 gaaaaattaa aagaatttca tgaacatttt gattcaagaa ttcaaattgtt aacaggaaat 420  
 actgaagaca ttaatcaaatt aattaaaaat tataaaatat atgttggaca agcagataaa 480  
 gatcatcaaa ttaaccattc tgcataatg taccttattg acaaaaagg atcatatctt 540  
 tcacacttca ttccagattt aaaatcacaa gaaaatcaag tagataagt actatctt 600  
 gttaagcagt atctgtaaat aaattcatgg aatacggtgg atgagtaggt ttttttagt 660  
 attttttagtg ctaataacat tggcat 686

<210> 22  
 <211> 618  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*

<400> 22  
 atgaaaagttt tcaaattttt acttaatatc tgtttatttt ttgcagcaat ttttcttagga 60  
 tattcctacg taacaaaaca aggcattttt caagtaagag atcataacac tcccaataaca 120  
 aatatatcaa ataaagccag cattactact agttttcgt tagtaaatca agatggaaat 180  
 acagtaaataa gtcaagattt ttggggaaaa tacatgttag ttttatttttgg attttcttca 240  
 tgtaaaagca tctgccctgc tgaatttagga atagcatctg aagttcttc acagcttgg 300  
 aatgacacag acaagttaca agtaattttc attacaattg atccaaacaaa tgatactgta 360  
 caaaaattaa aaacatttca tgaacattttt gatcctagaa ttcaaattgtt aacaggcagt 420  
 gcagaagata ttgaaaaat aataaaaaat tacaaaatat atgttggaca agcagataaa 480  
 gataatcaa ttgatcactc tgccataatg tacattatcg ataaaaagg agaatacatt 540  
 tcacactttt ctccagattt aaaatcaaca gaaaatcaag tagataagt actatctata 600  
 ataaaaacaat atctctaa 618

<210> 23  
 <211> 205  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> *Ehrlichia canis*

<400> 23  
 Met Lys Ala Ile Lys Phe Ile Leu Asn Val Cys Leu Leu Phe Ala Ala  
 1 5 10 15

21

Ile Phe Leu Gly Tyr Ser Tyr Ile Thr Lys Gln Gly Ile Phe Gln Thr  
20 25 30

Lys His His Asp Thr Pro Asn Thr Thr Ile Pro Asn Glu Asp Gly Ile  
35 40 45

Gln Ser Ser Phe Ser Leu Ile Asn Gln Asp Gly Lys Thr Val Thr Ser  
50 55 60

Gln Asp Phe Leu Gly Lys His Met Leu Val Leu Phe Gly Phe Ser Ala  
65 70 75 80

Cys Lys Ser Ile Cys Pro Ala Glu Leu Gly Leu Val Ser Glu Ala Leu  
85 90 95

Ala Gln Leu Gly Asn Asn Ala Asp Lys Leu Gln Val Ile Phe Ile Thr  
100 105 110

Ile Asp Pro Lys Asn Asp Thr Val Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Phe His Glu  
115 120 125

His Phe Asp Ser Arg Ile Gln Met Leu Thr Gly Asn Thr Glu Asp Ile  
130 135 140

Asn Gln Ile Ile Lys Asn Tyr Lys Ile Tyr Val Gly Gln Ala Asp Lys  
145 150 155 160

Asp His Gln Ile Asn His Ser Ala Ile Met Tyr Leu Ile Asp Lys Lys  
165 170 175

Gly Ser Tyr Leu Ser His Phe Ile Pro Asp Leu Lys Ser Gln Glu Asn  
180 185 190

Gln Val Asp Lys Leu Leu Ser Leu Val Lys Gln Tyr Leu  
195 200 205

<210> 24  
<211> 205  
<212> PRT  
<213> Ehrlichia chaffeensis

<400> 24  
Met Lys Val Ile Lys Phe Ile Leu Asn Ile Cys Leu Leu Phe Ala Ala  
1 5 10 15

Ile Phe Leu Gly Tyr Ser Tyr Val Thr Lys Gln Gly Ile Phe Gln Val  
20 25 30

Arg Asp His Asn Thr Pro Asn Thr Asn Ile Ser Asn Lys Ala Ser Ile  
35 40 45

Thr Thr Ser Phe Ser Leu Val Asn Gln Asp Gly Asn Thr Val Asn Ser  
50 55 60

22

Gln Asp Phe Leu Gly Lys Tyr Met Leu Val Leu Phe Gly Ser Ser  
 65                    70                    75                    80

Cys Lys Ser Ile Cys Pro Ala Glu Leu Gly Ile Ala Ser Glu Val Leu  
 85                    90                    95

Ser Gln Leu Gly Asn Asp Thr Asp Lys Leu Gln Val Ile Phe Ile Thr  
 100                  105                  110

Ile Asp Pro Thr Asn Asp Thr Val Gln Lys Leu Lys Thr Phe His Glu  
 115                  120                  125

His Phe Asp Pro Arg Ile Gln Met Leu Thr Gly Ser Ala Glu Asp Ile  
 130                  135                  140

Glu Lys Ile Ile Lys Asn Tyr Lys Ile Tyr Val Gly Gln Ala Asp Lys  
 145                  150                  155                  160

Asp Asn Gln Ile Asp His Ser Ala Ile Met Tyr Ile Ile Asp Lys Lys  
 165                  170                  175

Gly Glu Tyr Ile Ser His Phe Ser Pro Asp Leu Lys Ser Thr Glu Asn  
 180                  185                  190

Gln Val Asp Lys Leu Leu Ser Ile Ile Lys Gln Tyr Leu  
 195                  200                  205

&lt;210&gt; 25

&lt;211&gt; 618

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Cowdria ruminantium

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; CDS

&lt;222&gt; (1)..(615)

&lt;400&gt; 25

atg aag gct atc aag ttt ata ctt aat cta tgt tta cta ttt gca gca      48  
 Met Lys Ala Ile Lys Phe Ile Leu Asn Leu Cys Leu Leu Phe Ala Ala  
 1                    5                    10                    15

att ttt ttg gga tat tct tac ata aca aaa caa ggt ata ttc caa cca      95  
 Ile Phe Leu Gly Tyr Ser Tyr Ile Thr Lys Gln Gly Ile Phe Gln Pro  
 20                  25                  30

aaa tta cac gac tct cct gat gtt aat ata tcg aac aaa gcg gat ata      144  
 Lys Leu His Asp Ser Pro Asp Val Asn Ile Ser Asn Lys Ala Asp Ile  
 35                  40                  45

aat act agc ttt agc tta att aat cag gat ggt att acg ata tct agt      192  
 Asn Thr Ser Phe Ser Leu Ile Asn Gln Asp Gly Ile Thr Ile Ser Ser  
 50                  55                  60

aaa gac ttc ctt gga aaa cat atg tta gtc ctt ttt ggg ttt tct tct      240

Lys Asp Phe Leu Gly Lys His Met Leu Val Leu Phe Gly Phe Ser Ser			
65	70	75	80
tgt aaa act att tgc ccc atg gaa cta ggg tta gca tcc aca att cta			288
Cys Lys Thr Ile Cys Pro Met Glu Leu Gly Leu Ala Ser Thr Ile Leu			
85	90	95	
gat caa ctt ggc aac gaa tct gac aag tta caa gta gtc ttt ata act			336
Asp Gln Leu Gly Asn Glu Ser Asp Lys Leu Gln Val Val Phe Ile Thr			
100	105	110	
att gat cca aca aaa gat act gta gaa aca cta aaa gag ttt cac aaa			384
Ile Asp Pro Thr Lys Asp Thr Val Glu Thr Leu Lys Glu Phe His Lys			
115	120	125	
aat ttt gac tca cgg att caa atg tta aca gga aac att gaa gct att			432
Asn Phe Asp Ser Arg Ile Gln Met Leu Thr Gly Asn Ile Glu Ala Ile			
130	135	140	
aat caa ata gta caa ggg tac aaa gta tat gta ggt cag cca gac aat			480
Asn Gln Ile Val Gln Gly Tyr Lys Val Tyr Val Gly Gln Pro Asp Asn			
145	150	155	160
gat aac caa att aac cat tct gga ata atg tat att gta gac aag aaa			528
Asp Asn Gln Ile Asn His Ser Gly Ile Met Tyr Ile Val Asp Lys Lys			
165	170	175	
gga gaa tat tta aca cat ttt gta cca gat tta aag tca aaa gag cct			576
Gly Glu Tyr Leu Thr His Phe Val Pro Asp Leu Lys Ser Lys Glu Pro			
180	185	190	
caa gtg gat aaa tta ctt tct tta att aag cag tat ctt taa			618
Gln Val Asp Lys Leu Leu Ser Leu Ile Lys Gln Tyr Leu			
195	200	205	
<210> 26			
<211> 205			
<212> PRT			
<213> Cowdria ruminantium			
<400> 26			
Met Lys Ala Ile Lys Phe Ile Leu Asn Leu Cys Leu Leu Phe Ala Ala			
1	5	10	15
Ile Phe Leu Gly Tyr Ser Tyr Ile Thr Lys Gln Gly Ile Phe Gln Pro			
20	25	30	
Lys Leu His Asp Ser Pro Asp Val Asn Ile Ser Asn Lys Ala Asp Ile			
35	40	45	
Asn Thr Ser Phe Ser Leu Ile Asn Gln Asp Gly Ile Thr Ile Ser Ser			
50	55	60	

Lys Asp Phe Leu Gly Lys His Met Leu Val Leu Phe Gly Phe Ser Ser  
 65                   70                   75                   80

Cys Lys Thr Ile Cys Pro Met Glu Leu Gly Leu Ala Ser Thr Ile Leu  
 85                   90                   95

Asp Gln Leu Gly Asn Glu Ser Asp Lys Leu Gln Val Val Phe Ile Thr  
 100                 105                 110

Ile Asp Pro Thr Lys Asp Thr Val Glu Thr Leu Lys Glu Phe His Lys  
 115                 120                 125

Asn Phe Asp Ser Arg Ile Gln Met Leu Thr Gly Asn Ile Glu Ala Ile  
 130                 135                 140

Asn Gln Ile Val Gln Gly Tyr Lys Val Tyr Val Gly Gln Pro Asp Asn  
 145                 150                 155                 160

Asp Asn Gln Ile Asn His Ser Gly Ile Met Tyr Ile Val Asp Lys Lys  
 165                 170                 175

Gly Glu Tyr Leu Thr His Phe Val Pro Asp Leu Lys Ser Lys Glu Pro  
 180                 185                 190

Gln Val Asp Lys Leu Leu Ser Leu Ile Lys Gln Tyr Leu  
 195                 200                 205

<210> 27

<211> 981

<212> DNA

<213> Cowdria ruminantium

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (1)..(978)

<400> 27

atg aag aaa ata ttg gtt acg ttt tta gtt gtt gtt aat gtg ttt tgt   48  
 Met Lys Lys Ile Leu Val Thr Phe Leu Val Val Val Asn Val Phe Cys  
 1                 5                 10                 15

aat gct gcc att gct tca act gac tca tca gaa gat aaa cag tat att   96  
 Asn Ala Ala Ala Ser Thr Asp Ser Ser Glu Asp Lys Gln Tyr Ile  
 20                 25                 30

tta att ggt act ggt tct atg act gga gta tat tat cct ata gga ggt   144  
 Leu Ile Gly Thr Gly Ser Met Thr Gly Val Tyr Tyr Pro Ile Gly Gly  
 35                 40                 45

agc ata tgt agg ttt att gca tct gat tat ggt aat gat aat aac agc   192  
 Ser Ile Cys Arg Phe Ile Ala Ser Asp Tyr Gly Asn Asp Asn Asn Ser  
 50                 55                 60

25

ata gtt tgt tct ata tct tct aca act ggt agc gta tat aat ctt aat Ile Val Cys Ser Ile Ser Ser Thr Thr Gly Ser Val Tyr Asn Leu Asn	65	70	75	80	240
tct atg cgt tat gca aat atg gat ata ggt att att caa tct gat tta Ser Met Arg Tyr Ala Asn Met Asp Ile Gly Ile Ile Gln Ser Asp Leu	85	90	95		288
gag tac tat gca tat aat ggt att ggt tta tat gaa aaa atg cca gca Glu Tyr Tyr Ala Tyr Asn Gly Ile Gly Leu Tyr Glu Lys Met Pro Ala	100	105	110		336
atg agg cat cta aga ata tta tct tca tta cat aaa gaa tat ctt aca Met Arg His Leu Arg Ile Leu Ser Ser Leu His Lys Glu Tyr Leu Thr	115	120	125		384
att gtt gtt agg gcg aat tct aat ata tca gtt att gat gat ata aaa Ile Val Val Arg Ala Asn Ser Asn Ile Ser Val Ile Asp Asp Ile Lys	130	135	140		432
ggc aaa aga gtt aat att ggt agt cct ggt act ggt gta aga ata gca Gly Lys Arg Val Asn Ile Gly Ser Pro Gly Thr Gly Val Arg Ile Ala	145	150	155	160	480
atg tta aaa ttg tta aat gaa aaa gga tgg gga aga aaa gat ttt gct Met Leu Lys Leu Leu Asn Glu Lys Gly Trp Gly Arg Lys Asp Phe Ala	165	170	175		528
gtt atg gca gaa tta aaa tca tca gag caa gct caa gca tta tgt gat Val Met Ala Glu Leu Lys Ser Ser Glu Gln Ala Gln Ala Leu Cys Asp	180	185	190		576
aat aaa att gat gtg atg gta gat gtt gtt gga cat cct aat gct gca Asn Lys Ile Asp Val Met Val Asp Val Val Gly His Pro Asn Ala Ala	195	200	205		624
att caa gaa gca gca gca act tgt gat ata aaa ttt att tct tta gat Ile Gln Glu Ala Ala Ala Thr Cys Asp Ile Lys Phe Ile Ser Leu Asp	210	215	220		672
gat gat ctc ata gat aaa tta cat act aag tat ccc tat tat aaa agg Asp Asp Leu Ile Asp Lys Leu His Thr Lys Tyr Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg	225	230	235	240	720
gat att att agt ggt gcg tta tac agt aac tta cct gat ata caa act Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala Leu Tyr Ser Asn Leu Pro Asp Ile Gln Thr	245	250	255		768
gtt tca gta aaa gct tct tta ata aca act act gaa tta agc aat gag Val Ser Val Lys Ala Ser Leu Ile Thr Thr Glu Leu Ser Asn Glu	260	265	270		816
ttg gcc tat aaa gtt gtt aaa tct ttg gtt agc cat tta cat gaa cta Leu Ala Tyr Lys Val Val Lys Ser Leu Val Ser His Leu His Glu Leu	275	280	285		864

cat gga att act gga gct ctt aga aat ctt act gta aaa gac atg gta 912  
 His Gly Ile Thr Gly Ala Leu Arg Asn Leu Thr Val Lys Asp Met Val  
 290 295 300

cag tca gat att aca cct tta cat gac ggt gca aaa cgt tat tat aag 960  
 Gln Ser Asp Ile Thr Pro Leu His Asp Gly Ala Lys Arg Tyr Tyr Lys  
 305 310 315 320

gaa att gga gtt ata aaa taa 981  
 Glu Ile Gly Val Ile Lys  
 325

<210> 28  
<211> 326  
<212> PRT  
<213> Cowdria ruminantium

<400> 28  
Met Lys Lys Ile Leu Val Thr Phe Leu Val Val Val Asn Val Phe Cys  
 1 5 10 15

Asn Ala Ala Ile Ala Ser Thr Asp Ser Ser Glu Asp Lys Gln Tyr Ile  
 20 25 30

Leu Ile Gly Thr Gly Ser Met Thr Gly Val Tyr Tyr Pro Ile Gly Gly  
 35 40 45

Ser Ile Cys Arg Phe Ile Ala Ser Asp Tyr Gly Asn Asp Asn Asn Ser  
 50 55 60

Ile Val Cys Ser Ile Ser Ser Thr Thr Gly Ser Val Tyr Asn Leu Asn  
 65 70 75 80

Ser Met Arg Tyr Ala Asn Met Asp Ile Gly Ile Ile Gln Ser Asp Leu  
 85 90 95

Glu Tyr Tyr Ala Tyr Asn Gly Ile Gly Leu Tyr Glu Lys Met Pro Ala  
 100 105 110

Met Arg His Leu Arg Ile Leu Ser Ser Leu His Lys Glu Tyr Leu Thr  
 115 120 125

Ile Val Val Arg Ala Asn Ser Asn Ile Ser Val Ile Asp Asp Ile Lys  
 130 135 140

Gly Lys Arg Val Asn Ile Gly Ser Pro Gly Thr Gly Val Arg Ile Ala  
 145 150 155 160

Met Leu Lys Leu Leu Asn Glu Lys Gly Trp Gly Arg Lys Asp Phe Ala  
 165 170 175

Val Met Ala Glu Leu Lys Ser Ser Glu Gln Ala Gln Ala Leu Cys Asp  
 180 185 190

Asn Lys Ile Asp Val Met Val Asp Val Val Gly His Pro Asn Ala Ala  
 195 200 205  
 Ile Gln Glu Ala Ala Ala Thr Cys Asp Ile Lys Phe Ile Ser Leu Asp  
 210 215 220  
 Asp Asp Leu Ile Asp Lys Leu His Thr Lys Tyr Pro Tyr Tyr Lys Arg  
 225 230 235 240  
 Asp Ile Ile Ser Gly Ala Leu Tyr Ser Asn Leu Pro Asp Ile Gln Thr  
 245 250 255  
 Val Ser Val Lys Ala Ser Leu Ile Thr Thr Thr Glu Leu Ser Asn Glu  
 260 265 270  
 Leu Ala Tyr Lys Val Val Lys Ser Leu Val Ser His Leu His Glu Leu  
 275 280 285  
 His Gly Ile Thr Gly Ala Leu Arg Asn Leu Thr Val Lys Asp Met Val  
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 Gln Ser Asp Ile Thr Pro Leu His Asp Gly Ala Lys Arg Tyr Tyr Lys  
 305 310 315 320  
 Glu Ile Gly Val Ile Lys  
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 1 5 10 15  
 gca ttt gtt gca cct act gct gta att ata ggt gat gtt tgt gta aat 96  
 Ala Phe Val Ala Pro Thr Ala Val Ile Ile Gly Asp Val Cys Val Asn  
 20 25 30  
 gac aag tgt agc att tgg tat aac tca gta tta cgt gga gat gta ggc 144  
 Asp Lys Cys Ser Ile Trp Tyr Asn Ser Val Leu Arg Gly Asp Val Gly  
 35 40 45  
 caa att gtt att ggt gta ggt act aat att caa gat ggg aca ata ata 192  
 Gln Ile Val Ile Gly Val Gly Thr Asn Ile Gln Asp Gly Thr Ile Ile  
 50 55 60

28

cat gtt gat agg aaa tat ggt aat acg aat att ggc aaa aag gtt act	240
His Val Asp Arg Lys Tyr Gly Asn Thr Asn Ile Gly Lys Lys Val Thr	
65                   70                   75                   80	

att ggg cat ggg tgt ata tta cat gct tgt gag ata caa gat tat gtg      288  
 Ile Gly His Gly Cys Ile Leu His Ala Cys Glu Ile Gln Asp Tyr Val  
                   85                      90                      95

ctt gtt gga atg gga tct att att atg gat aac gtt gtg gtt gaa aag 336  
 Leu Val Gly Met Gly Ser Ile Ile Met Asp Asn Val Val Val Glu Lys  
                  100                 105                 110

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aat gca atg gtg gct gct gga tca tta gtg gta aga ggt aaa gtt gtg 384
Asn Ala Met Val Ala Ala Gly Ser Leu Val Val Arg Gly Lys Val Val
115           120           125

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aaa act ggt gaa tta tgg gct ggt agg cct gca caa ttt tta aga atg      432
Lys Thr Gly Glu Leu Trp Ala Gly Arg Pro Ala Gln Phe Leu Arg Met
          130           135           140

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Leu Ser Ser Asp Glu Ile Lys Glu Ile Ser Lys Ser Ala Asp Asn Tyr
145           150           155           160

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ata gag ctt gcc agt gat tac ata act ggt aag ttg taa 519  
Ile Glu Leu Ala Ser Asp Tyr Ile Thr Gly Lys Leu  
165 170

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<212> PRT  
<213> *Cowdria ruminantium*

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Ala Phe Val Ala Pro Thr Ala Val Ile Ile Gly Asp Val Cys Val Asn  
20 25 30

Asp Lys Cys Ser Ile Trp Tyr Asn Ser Val Leu Arg Gly Asp Val Gly  
35 40 45

Gln Ile Val Ile Gly Val Gly Thr Asn Ile Gln Asp Gly Thr Ile Ile  
50 55 60

His Val Asp Arg Lys Tyr Gly Asn Thr Asn Ile Gly Lys Lys Val Thr  
65 70 75 80

Ile Gly His Gly Cys Ile Leu His Ala Cys Glu Ile Gln Asp Tyr Val  
85 90 95

Leu Val Gly Met Gly Ser Ile Ile Met Asp Asn Val Val Val Glu Lys  
100 105 110

Asn Ala Met Val Ala Ala Gly Ser Leu Val Val Arg Gly Lys Val Val  
 115 120 125  
 Lys Thr Gly Glu Leu Trp Ala Gly Arg Pro Ala Gln Phe Leu Arg Met  
 130 135 140  
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 1 5 10 15  
 agt ttt cca cta tta aat aac tgg cta tct aat cat tct ggt aag tct 96  
 Ser Phe Pro Leu Leu Asn Asn Trp Leu Ser Asn His Ser Gly Lys Ser  
 20 25 30  
 act aca ttg gat aag gat gca gtt ata tct ata gtt gag gaa tat ata 144  
 Thr Thr Leu Asp Lys Asp Ala Val Ile Ser Ile Val Glu Glu Tyr Ile  
 35 40 45  
 acc aat tat cct cag agg gta ata gat tta ctt act aca ggc caa gca 192  
 Thr Asn Tyr Pro Gln Arg Val Ile Asp Leu Leu Thr Thr Gly Gln Ala  
 50 55 60  
 caa gca gaa aga gca gag ctt act gaa aat att aaa aaa tat aaa tct 240  
 Gln Ala Glu Arg Ala Glu Leu Thr Glu Asn Ile Lys Lys Tyr Lys Ser  
 65 70 75 80  
 gag ctt gaa gat att gca tac cca tct gct ggc aat aaa gac agt aaa 288  
 Glu Leu Glu Asp Ile Ala Tyr Pro Ser Ala Gly Asn Lys Asp Ser Lys  
 85 90 95  
 att gca ttt att gag ttc ttc gat tac tct tgt ggt tat tgt aaa atg 336  
 Ile Ala Phe Ile Phe Phe Asp Tyr Ser Cys Gly Tyr Cys Lys Met  
 100 105 110  
 atg ttt gaa gat atc aaa caa att ata aaa gat ggt aag gta cgt gtt 384  
 Met Phe Glu Asp Ile Lys Gln Ile Ile Lys Asp Gly Lys Val Arg Val  
 115 120 125

30

att ttt aga gat ttt cca ata ctt ggg gaa tcg tcg tta aag gct gtt	432		
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130	135	140	
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Lys Ala Ala Leu Ala Val His Leu Ile Asn Pro Ser Lys Tyr Leu Asp			
145	150	155	160
ttc tat tat gca gca tta aat cat aaa cag cca ttt aat gat gaa tct	528		
Phe Tyr Tyr Ala Ala Leu Asn His Lys Gln Pro Phe Asn Asp Glu Ser			
165	170	175	
ata ctt aat ata gtt aaa tca ctt gaa att tca gaa gag gaa ttt aaa	576		
Ile Leu Asn Ile Val Lys Ser Leu Glu Ile Ser Glu Glu Phe Lys			
180	185	190	
gat tct tta tct aaa aat tct agt act att gat aag atg ata gag tcc	624		
Asp Ser Ile Ser Lys Asn Ser Ser Thr Ile Asp Lys Met Ile Glu Ser			
195	200	205	
act aga aat ctg gct gag aag tta aat atc aga ggt act cct gct ctt	672		
Thr Arg Asn Leu Ala Glu Lys Leu Asn Ile Arg Gly Thr Pro Ala Leu			
210	215	220	
ata ata ggt gat gca ttc att ggg gga gct gca gat tta tca act tta	720		
Ile Ile Gly Asp Ala Phe Ile Gly Gly Ala Ala Asp Leu Ser Thr Leu			
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20	25	30	
Thr Thr Leu Asp Lys Asp Ala Val Ile Ser Ile Val Glu Glu Tyr Ile			
35	40	45	
Thr Asn Tyr Pro Gln Arg Val Ile Asp Leu Leu Thr Thr Gly Gln Ala			
50	55	60	
Gln Ala Glu Arg Ala Glu Leu Thr Glu Asn Ile Lys Lys Tyr Lys Ser			
65	70	75	80

Glu Leu Glu Asp Ile Ala Tyr Pro Ser Ala Gly Asn Lys Asp Ser Lys  
                   85                                 90                         95  
  
 Ile Ala Phe Ile Glu Phe Asp Tyr Ser Cys Gly Tyr Cys Lys Met  
                   100                             105                         110  
  
 Met Phe Glu Asp Ile Lys Gln Ile Ile Lys Asp Gly Lys Val Arg Val  
                   115                             120                         125  
  
 Ile Phe Arg Asp Phe Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Ser Ser Leu Lys Ala Val  
                   130                             135                         140  
  
 Lys Ala Ala Leu Ala Val His Leu Ile Asn Pro Ser Lys Tyr Leu Asp  
                   145                             150                         155                         160  
  
 Phe Tyr Tyr Ala Ala Leu Asn His Lys Gln Pro Phe Asn Asp Glu Ser  
                   165                             170                         175  
  
 Ile Leu Asn Ile Val Lys Ser Leu Glu Ile Ser Glu Glu Phe Lys  
                   180                             185                         190  
  
 Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Asn Ser Ser Thr Ile Asp Lys Met Ile Glu Ser  
                   195                             200                         205  
  
 Thr Arg Asn Leu Ala Glu Lys Leu Asn Ile Arg Gly Thr Pro Ala Leu  
                   210                             215                         220  
  
 Ile Ile Gly Asp Ala Phe Ile Gly Gly Ala Ala Asp Leu Ser Thr Leu  
                   225                             230                         235                         240  
  
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                   245                             250

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     1                 5                         10                         15  
  
 gca gga gca ata tct att ggg ata ata gca ttt aac aaa tta cca tat      96  
 Ala Gly Ala Ile Ser Ile Gly Ile Ile Ala Phe Asn Lys Leu Pro Tyr  
     20                 25                         30  
  
 aaa aat acc ttg cgt aat tgt tat aca gtt aaa gca ttt ttc tca aat      144  
 Lys Asn Thr Leu Arg Asn Cys Tyr Thr Val Lys Ala Phe Phe Ser Asn  
     35                 40                         45

32

gta gat ggg ttg gac ata gga gat gaa gta aca ata tca gga gta aaa	192
Val Asp Gly Leu Asp Ile Gly Asp Glu Val Thr Ile Ser Gly Val Lys	
50	55
55	60
ata ggt aca gta act tca ata tca ttg aat gaa agc tat act cct ata	240
Ile Gly Thr Val Thr Ser Ile Ser Leu Asn Glu Ser Tyr Thr Pro Ile	
65	70
70	75
75	80
gta aca atg tgc ata cag aaa aat atc tta cta cct tca gat agt tca	288
Val Thr Met Cys Ile Gln Lys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Ser Asp Ser Ser	
85	90
90	95
gca tct ata tta aac agc aat atg tta gga aaa aag cac att gat atc	336
Ala Ser Ile Leu Asn Ser Asn Met Leu Gly Lys Lys His Ile Asp Ile	
100	105
105	110
gaa ctt gga tca gat caa gaa gtc atc gta agt gaa ggt tta ata gaa	384
Glu Leu Gly Ser Asp Gln Glu Val Ile Val Ser Glu Gly Leu Ile Glu	
115	120
120	125
cat aca cat tca gat tta agt ttc aat gca att att gct aaa ata ata	432
His Thr His Ser Asp Leu Ser Phe Asn Ala Ile Ile Ala Lys Ile Ile	
130	135
135	140
gat tca ctt att aag tag	450
Asp Ser Leu Ile Lys	
145	

&lt;210&gt; 34

&lt;211&gt; 149

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Cowdria ruminantium

&lt;400&gt; 34

Met His Arg Ser Asn Ile Ile Glu Ile Phe Ile Gly Phe Leu Val Leu	
1	5
5	10
10	15

Ala Gly Ala Ile Ser Ile Gly Ile Ile Ala Phe Asn Lys Leu Pro Tyr	
20	25
25	30

Lys Asn Thr Leu Arg Asn Cys Tyr Thr Val Lys Ala Phe Phe Ser Asn	
35	40
40	45

Val Asp Gly Leu Asp Ile Gly Asp Glu Val Thr Ile Ser Gly Val Lys	
50	55
55	60

Ile Gly Thr Val Thr Ser Ile Ser Leu Asn Glu Ser Tyr Thr Pro Ile	
65	70
70	75
75	80

Val Thr Met Cys Ile Gln Lys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Ser Asp Ser Ser	
85	90
90	95

Ala Ser Ile Leu Asn Ser Asn Met Leu Gly Lys Lys His Ile Asp Ile	
100	105
105	110

33

Glu Leu Gly Ser Asp Gln Glu Val Ile Val Ser Glu Gly Leu Ile Glu  
115 120 125

His Thr His Ser Asp Leu Ser Phe Asn Ala Ile Ile Ala Lys Ile Ile  
130 135 140

Asp Ser Leu Ile Lys  
145

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat	ional Application No
PCT/US 00/10886	

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
IPC 7	C12N15/31	C07K14/29	A61K39/02	C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED				
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Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)				
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IPC 7	C07K
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched				
---	--	--	--	--

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)				
--	--	--	--	--

BIOSIS				
--------	--	--	--	--

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
--	--	--	--	--

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 16554 A (UNIV FLORIDA) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) the whole document ---	1-24
X	BOWIE MICHAEL V ET AL: "Potential value of major antigenic protein 2 for serological diagnosis of heartwater and related Ehrlichial infections." CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY IMMUNOLOGY, vol. 6, no. 2, March 1999 (1999-03), pages 209-215, XP000939015 ISSN: 1071-412X the whole document ---	1-4, 7-13, 21-24

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.
-------------------------------------	--

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patent family members are listed in annex.
-------------------------------------	--

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
---	--

5 September 2000	22 12 2000
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Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
-------------------------------------	--------------------

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentstaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

ANDRES S.M.
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern:	al Application No
PCT/US 00/10886	

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>NYIKA A ET AL.: "A DNA vaccine protects mice against the rickettsial agent Cowdria ruminantium."</p> <p>PARASITE IMMUNOLOGY (OXFORD), vol. 20, no. 3, March 1998 (1998-03), pages 111-119, XP000939081</p> <p>ISSN: 0141-9838</p> <p>the whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1-4, 6-14, 17-19
X	<p>MAHAN S M ET AL: "Molecular cloning of a gene encoding the immunogenic 21 kDa protein of Cowdria ruminantium."</p> <p>MICROBIOLOGY (READING), vol. 140, no. 8, 1994, pages 2135-2142, XP000939016</p> <p>the whole document</p> <p>-----</p>	1-4, 7-13, 21-24

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 00/10886

### Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
**see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210**
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

**see additional sheet**

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**1-24**

#### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.1

Although claims 10 to 19 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, and claim 20 (as far as an in vivo method is concerned) is directed to a diagnostic method practised on the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-24

1.1. Claims: 1-2,6-7,10-11,17-19,21-22 (all partially)  
A composition comprising a polynucleotide encoding an antigen from Rickettsia spp. and methods for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

1.2. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-24 (all partially), and claims 5, 15 (totally)

Compositions comprising SEQ IDs 3,4; 7,14; 8,15; 9,16; 10,17; 11,18 and 22,24 (corresponding to the MAP1, VSA1 to VSA5 and MAP2 antigens from Ehrlichia chaffeensis) and methods for using them in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

1.3. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-24 (all partially)

Compositions comprising SEQ IDs 12,19; 13,20 and 21,23 (corresponding to the VSA1, VSA2 and MAP2 antigens from Ehrlichia canis) and methods for using them in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

1.4. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,  
21-24 (all partially) and claim 16 (totally)

A compositions comprising SEQ IDs 4 and 5 (corresponding to the MSP-4 antigen from Anaplasma marginale) and methods for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

1.5. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,  
21-24 (all partially) and claim 14 (totally)

Compositions comprising SEQ IDs 1,2 and 25,26 (corresponding to the antigens MAP1 and MAP2 from Cowdria ruminantium) and methods for using them in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

2. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,21-24 (all partially)

A composition comprising SEQ IDs 27 and 28 (corresponding to the lhworf3 antigen from Cowdria ruminantium) and methods

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

3. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,21-24 (all partially)

A composition comprising SEQ IDs 29 and 30 (corresponding to the 4hworf1 antigen from *Cowdria ruminantium*) and methods for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

4. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,21-24 (all partially)

A composition comprising SEQ IDs 31 and 32 (corresponding to the 18hworf1 antigen from *Cowdria ruminantium*) and methods for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

5. Claims: 1-4,6-13,17-19,21-24 (all partially)

A composition comprising SEQ IDs 33 and 34 (corresponding to the 3gdorf3 antigen from *Cowdria ruminantium*) and methods for using it in protection of a host against a disease or death, or in diagnostic.

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/10886

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9816554 A	23-04-1998	US 6025338 A		15-02-2000